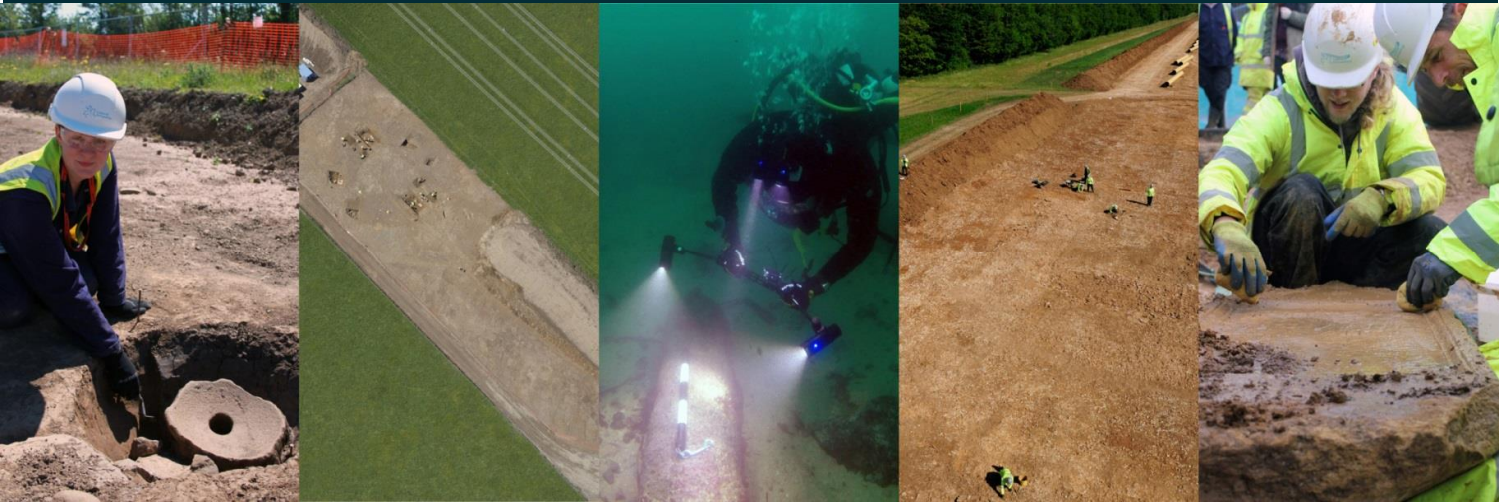




# Land at Abingdon Road Drayton Oxfordshire

*Archaeological Excavation*



*for*  
CgMs

*on behalf of*  
Miller Homes Ltd and Caudwell  
& Sons Ltd

CA Project: 779009  
CA Report: 16072

March 2016



Land at Abingdon Rd  
Drayton  
Oxfordshire

Archaeological Excavation

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## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Land at Abingdon Rd  
**Location:** Drayton, Oxfordshire  
**NGR:** SU 44779 19500  
**Type:** Excavation  
**Date:** 28 September to 23 October 2015  
**Planning Reference:** P14/V2504/FUL  
**Location of Archive:** Oxfordshire Museum Service  
**Site Code:** ABI 15  
**Accession Number:** OXCMS: 2015.193

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology (CA) in September and October 2015, on land to the west of Abingdon Road, Drayton. The excavation area was located at the north-west end of the proposed development area, and was targeted on archaeological features identified by a previous evaluation of the site (CA 2015).

The Bronze Age and Roman features identified by evaluation and excavation are situated on a gravel island within the wider floodplain of the River Ock, a minor tributary of the Thames. An enclosing ditch, originally of Middle Bronze Age date, delineated an area of gravel drift geology from the less well drained alluvial silts and underlying clays of the flood plain and river terrace, and is likely to have provided necessary drainage at this time. This ditch was subsequently recut in the Late Iron Age or early Roman period. A Bronze Age enclosure ditch, together with limited evidence of activity of this date, was recorded within the excavation area.

Excavation confirmed the results of geophysical survey and field evaluation, and identified the remains of a Late Iron Age/Roman enclosed farmstead, with associated land boundaries. The dating of the ceramic assemblage recovered within the area excavated indicated that this part of the site was occupied for a limited time, between the mid-first and mid-second centuries AD, although pottery of later Roman date has been recorded within the vicinity of the excavation area (WYG 2014).

It is probable that the boundary ditches identified by excavation date to the period of Late Iron Age/Romano-British transition, and comprise part of a wider scheme of enclosure which

was focused in the northern and eastern parts of the Site. Artefactual evidence recovered from ditches and refuge pits is diagnostic of domestic activity, with coarse and fineware pottery types, and small quantities of central Gaulish imported wares. Recorded pottery distribution within other parts of the site suggests further, and possibly later, settlement activity beyond the excavation area, to the north and west. The extent of enclosed settlement has been confirmed by the results of recent geophysical survey (Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015).

Two probable Iron Age four-post structures were also identified within the late Iron Age/Roman enclosure. A penannular gully, representing an Iron Age or early Roman roundhouse of c.15m diameter, was recorded within the northern corner of the excavated area. The full extent of the roundhouse was not revealed. A smaller possible Iron Age structure, with a diameter of c. 6m, was recorded in the centre of the excavated area. It had been truncated by a later Roman ditch and may, on the basis of its relatively small size, have functioned as a livestock pen or storage building. A limited assemblage of animal bone suggests a primarily pastoral farming economy, an interpretation which is broadly supported by a number of other excavated sites within the Upper Thames Valley.

A system of north-west/south-east aligned medieval furrows was recorded across the excavation area, which confirms that it comprised part of the open-field agricultural hinterland of Drayton village during this period. The evidence from this site complements that from a number of investigated sites within the surrounding area, which indicates that the wider landscape was extensively settled and exploited during the later prehistoric and Roman periods.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September and October, 2015, on land west of Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire, at the request at the request of CgMs, on behalf of Miller Homes Ltd and Caudwell & Sons Ltd (centred on NGR: SU 44779 19500 (Fig. 1).
- 1.2 A planning application (Ref. P14/V2504/FUL) is currently under consideration by Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC), for the construction of 73 dwellings, with associated access, parking, open space, sports pitches, a new footpath connection to Corneville Road (full application), and a pavilion (outline element, all matters reserved).
- 1.3 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015), and approved by the County Archaeologist, Hugh Coddington, at Oxfordshire County Council (CAOCC). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation* (ClfA 2014); the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991), and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). Monitoring of the excavation was undertaken by Hugh Coddington, County Archaeologist at Oxfordshire County Council (CAOCC), and included site visits made on 15th and 23rd of October, 2015.

### ***The site***

- 1.4 The proposed development area within the Site is approximately 8 hectares in extent, and comprises two arable fields located on the north side of the village of Drayton, Oxfordshire. The Site lies at an elevation of approximately 60-64m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).
- 1.5 The Site is bounded by further arable fields to the north-east and north-west, with Abingdon Road (B4017), and associated housing, to the south-east, and a trackway, with arable fields and housing, to the south-west (Fig 1).

- 1.6 The British Geological Survey has identified the superficial geology of the Site as sand and gravel overlaying the solid geology of Ampthill Clay, of Jurassic date (BGS Online).

## **2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 *Introduction***

The proposed development is situated within a rich archaeological landscape, with a variety of recorded remains within the environs of the Site. A detailed desk-based assessment (DBA) has been produced for this site (WYG 2014), together with a geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica Ltd 2014), and the results of this work are described in Sections 2.2 to 2.13 of this report. An archaeological evaluation of the site was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April, 2015, and a summary of these results is presented in Sections 2.14 to 2.17, below.

### ***Early Prehistoric (up to c. 1500BC)***

- 2.2 Evidence of earlier prehistoric activity within the environs of the site is largely represented by discrete findspots of worked flint, comparable to those within the wider Thames Valley region, where stone tools and waste flakes constitute the principal evidence of this date. A single fragment of a Lower Palaeolithic hand-axe was recorded in plough-soil to the north-east of the proposed development site, near Stonehill Farm, c. 750m to the north-east, and three Mousterian hand-axes were found in a gravel deposit, approximately 800m to the south-east of the Site. Further Palaeolithic material is recorded from Sutton Courtenay, c. 6.5 km to the south-east, and from Abingdon, c. 2km to the north.
- 2.3 A flake and microlith, recovered as part of an extensive assemblage of multi-period worked flint c. 200m to the south-west of the Site, represent the only local evidence of confirmed Mesolithic date. A number of further isolated finds of worked flint within the wider environs of the Site may also be of Mesolithic date.
- 2.4 There is no specific evidence for Neolithic activity within the Site, with the exception of the generally undiagnostic flint-work of Neolithic or Bronze Age character recorded within the northern area. Within the surrounding study area assessed for the desk-based assessment (WYG 2014), a probable Neolithic long barrow, together with a series of pits and an enclosure, have been identified from aerial photographs

within a large arable field close to Sherwood Farm, approximately 500 metres to the east of the Site. A number of discrete findspots have also been recorded within the wider vicinity, including polished stone axes and flint-work of Neolithic date. The Abingdon Causewayed Enclosure(s), and the Drayton Cursus, represent significant ceremonial monuments within the wider environs of the Site, and suggest that this part of the Thames Valley was an important focus of Neolithic ceremonial activity (Barclay *et al* 2003). The Drayton Cursus, located to the east of the Site, and just beyond the extent of the assessed study area, is c. 1.5km in length, and extends northwards from Drayton, towards Abingdon.

- 2.5 Prior to the undertaking of the archaeological evaluation, a possible barrow mound was identified along the north-western edge of the proposed development boundary. The mound is extant as a low earthwork feature, and has been identified by geophysical survey (Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015). While a precise date for this feature has not been determined, a prehistoric or Roman date has previously been suggested. The results of the 2015 evaluation indicated a post-Roman date, although the mound could not otherwise be characterised. It could therefore be of early Saxon date, or conceivably result from post-medieval agricultural activity.
- 2.6 Evidence for Bronze Age activity within the Site was identified at evaluation stage by a miniature bipartite collared urn, which was found within a possible cremation pit in Trench 11 (CA 2015) (Fig 17). Due to poor levels of bone preservation, it could not be established whether the collared urn contained cremated human remains, or was simply part of a votive offering which included animal and organic remains.
- 2.7 The remains of a number of Bronze Age barrows have been identified as cropmarks within the environs of the Site, including a possible round barrow(s) to the east of Sherwood Farm, located approximately 500 metres to the east. A further suggested example appears to be associated with the Drayton Cursus, and other cropmark examples are recorded to the south and west of Drayton.

#### ***Later Prehistoric (c. 1500 – 100 BC)***

- 2.8 Despite a general paucity of Iron Age features within the immediately surrounding area, the excavated area is contiguous with a complex of enclosures and ditches identified by geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica Ltd 2014; Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015) which, by direct association, have been dated to

the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period. The enclosure complex appears to represent an enclosed farmstead with associated land boundaries (Fig 2).

***Roman Period (c. AD43 - 450).***

- 2.9 There is no evidence to suggest that the Abingdon Road site was ever a significant focus of Roman-period settlement, although pottery of 1st, 2nd and 4th century date has been recorded from the north-east part of the Site, beyond the excavated area. A Roman trackway and ditch, together with a number of undated cremation burials, have been identified to the east of the Site (WYG 2014).

***Anglo Saxon/ Early Medieval Periods (c. AD450 to 1066)***

- 2.10 No archaeological remains dating to the early medieval period have been recorded within the proposed development area, although a discrete cluster of features of possible early medieval date has been identified from aerial photographs to the south-east of the study area addressed within the desk-based assessment (WYG 2014). A group of potentially early medieval extraction pits, and possible field boundaries of the same period, comprise the northerly elements of a cluster of similar features between Drayton and Milton, to the south. An inhumation cemetery of 6th and 7th century date has been investigated to the north of Milton, approximately 2.5km south of the Site (Oxfordshire HER).

***Medieval Period (AD1066 -1540)***

- 2.11 A number of medieval sites have been identified within the surrounding assessment area. These are principally concentrated within an area to the south-east of the Site, in and around Drayton village. The historic core of Drayton retains a number of buildings of medieval origin, including the Manor House, which probably dates to the 15th century, and the Church of St. Peter, which dates to the early 13th century. Despite the survival of a small number of medieval buildings in the historic centre of Drayton, many older village houses were reputedly destroyed by a fire in 1780.
- 2.12 The geophysical surveys undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica Ltd (2014), and Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics (2015), prior to the trial trench evaluation, have identified anomalies consistent with complex ditched enclosure boundaries, internal features and the ploughed-out remains of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

***Post-Medieval Period (AD1540 - 1750) to Modern (AD1900 to present)***

- 2.13 Beyond surviving aspects of the built heritage, there is little evidence for post-medieval activity within the environs of the Site. However, this landscape is known to have been extensively cultivated during this period, and many recorded medieval field boundaries survived throughout the post-medieval period, and beyond.

### **Archaeological Evaluation**

- 2.14 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April, 2015 (CA 2015), and comprised the excavation of twelve trenches targeted on the results of initial geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica Ltd 2014) (Fig. 2).
- 2.15 The evaluation revealed a series of ditches associated with a complex scheme of enclosures concentrated within the north-western part of the Site. Linear ditches of Late Iron Age/Roman date were identified within Trenches 1, 10, 11 and 12. The artefactual evidence recovered from the ditches was diagnostic of domestic activity at, or close to, the Site, with recovered pottery including domestic coarse and finewares and central Gaulish imported wares. The ditched features recorded during the evaluation dated to the period of Late Iron Age/Roman transition, and comprised part of an enclosed settlement and integral agricultural landscape. The pottery assemblage recovered during the evaluation stage also suggests some later Roman settlement activity beyond the excavation area. This suggestion is supported by finds previously recovered to the north of the Site (WYG 2014). Several fragments of Roman ceramic building material (CBM) were also recovered from a number of the ditches recorded within Trenches 1 and 12.
- 2.16 Trench 11 was targeted on the site of the suspected prehistoric barrow identified from cartographic sources and previous survey work (WYG 2014; Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015). The potential barrow site was visible as a low-lying earthwork at the time of the evaluation. Features of Bronze Age and Late Iron Age/Roman date were identified within Trench 11, and were clearly sealed beneath the make-up of the mound. This stratigraphic relationship therefore appears to confirm a post-Roman date, although, beyond this, the function and date of the mound cannot be determined, although it could conceivably be interpreted as an early Saxon burial mound, or *hlæwe*.
- 2.17 Evidence for Bronze Age activity was represented by an Early Bronze Age miniature, bipartite collared urn that was found within the fill of pit 1106, in Trench 11. Due to prevailing poor levels of bone preservation it could not be established

whether the collared urn had ever contained cremated human remains or comprised part of a votive offering which included animal and organic remains. The location of this pit, adjacent to an earthwork mound interpreted as a possible barrow, was thought to be potentially significant, although the mound has been confirmed as a considerably later feature.

### **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological mitigation are to:

- record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered;
- assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains;
- assess the overall presence, survival and potential of archaeological features which may provide an indication of historical agricultural practices and field systems; and
- assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.

3.2 The specific aims of excavation are to:

- further characterise and identify the nature and extent of the archaeological features recorded within Trenches 1 and 10;
- recover artefactual and ecofactual remains to date the archaeological features recorded in the evaluation, and to enhance understanding of their chronology;
- record any evidence of past settlement, or other land use, with the specific aim of defining the nature of the archaeological features previously recorded in the archaeological evaluation. Can these features be shown to relate to agricultural, domestic and / or industrial activity ?;
- recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified and, in particular, to help date those archaeological features previously recorded at the site which are currently undated;
- sample and analyse environmental remains, to create a better understanding of past land-use and economy;



- assess dating and ecofactual material recovered from the excavation to provide a better understanding of the chronology of the wider site and of the archaeological features recorded in the evaluation trenches;
- identify evidence of settlement, domestic and/or industrial activity, including agriculture.

#### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation (CA 2015). The location of the excavation area was informed by the results of the archaeological evaluation (CA 2015), and was agreed with Hugh Coddington (CAOCC). An excavation area of 0.6 ha was set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates, using Leica GPS, and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4: *Survey Manual*. The excavation area was scanned for live services, by trained CA staff using CAT and Genny equipment, in accordance with the CA *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*.
- 4.2 Fieldwork commenced with the removal of topsoil and subsoil from the excavation area by mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket, under archaeological supervision.
- 4.3 The archaeological features thus exposed were hand-excavated to the bottom of the archaeological sequence. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.4 Deposits were assessed for their environmental potential, and five features which were considered to have potential for characterising earlier phases of activity were sampled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.
- 4.5 All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of finds immediately after excavation*.

## 5. RESULTS (FIGS 3–17)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results. Detailed information relating to the contexts, finds and environmental samples (biological evidence) are to be found in Appendices A-E of this report.

5.2 The dating evidence indicates that archaeological activity on site dates principally to the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods. Stratigraphic analysis of finds and excavated features has identified six distinguishable phases of activity on the site:

Phase 0: Geology

Phase 1: Early prehistoric (to c. 2600 BC)

Phase 2: Early-Middle Bronze Age (c.2600-1500BC)

Phase 3: Middle/Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (c.1500 - 400BC)

Phase 4: Late Iron Age to Early Roman (c. 100 BC . late 1st Century AD)

Phase 5: Roman (late 1st century . 2nd century AD)

Phase 6: Medieval and post-medieval

Unphased

5.3 Some features could not be definitively assigned a date on the basis of stratigraphic relationships or spot-dating evidence, and therefore remained unphased.

### **Geology**

5.4 The natural geological substrate (103) varied across the site. Within the northern part of the excavation area it comprised a mid-brown/orange clay silt, with moderate gravel inclusions, whereas within the southern part of the site it comprised a mid-grey/brown silty clay, with rare gravel inclusions. The majority of the archaeological features revealed in the excavation were located within a gravel island within prevailing clay/silt alluvia. Across the excavation area, the natural geology was overlain by 0.10m of a subsoil layer (102), which may have derived from ridge-and-furrow cultivation of the site. The subsoil was in turn sealed by layer 101, an agricultural plough-soil, which had an average depth of 0.30m.

5.5 A number of tree-throw pits were identified across the site, and were tested for archaeological potential. The remainder were not investigated when it became clear that they contained sterile fills with no finds or items of archaeological interest.

**Phase 1, Early Prehistoric (to c. 2600BC)**

- 5.6 A small assemblage of relatively undiagnostic worked flint, recovered as residual material, is indicative of transient unspecified activity on, and around, the site during the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods.

**Phase 2, Early-Middle Bronze Age (c. 2600-1500BC)**

- 5.7 The sole evidence of earlier Bronze Age activity comprised a small, complete collared urn vessel from Pit 1106, within Evaluation Trench 11, which was probably deposited in association with a cremation burial (Fig 17). Small quantities of poorly-preserved bone were recorded in association with this vessel, which also contained a single false-oat grass tuber (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), together with a small amount of charcoal identified as oak (*Quercus*) and cherry species (*Prunus*).

**Phase 3, Middle/Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (1500-400BC)**

- 5.8 Apart from pit 1106, the earliest datable archaeological features recorded comprised the enclosure ditch (Ditch 6) and two other linear ditches that were probably part of the same enclosure system (Ditches 5 and 9) (Fig 3).
- 5.9 The Bronze Age Enclosure Ditches 5 and 6 (Figs 3 and 4) appear to comprise elements of the same scheme of enclosure. Ditch 6 runs on a general north-west / south-east alignment, before turning northwards, as Ditch 5, within the western part of the site. The relationship between Ditches 5 and 6 has been obscured by the truncation resulting from a medieval furrow, and it is therefore possible that Ditch 9, which cuts Ditch 5, actually represents a northward extension of Ditch 6. Ditch 5 was curvilinear in form, with the excavated section measuring approximately 94m in length. Its principal ditch, 318, averaged 2.49m in width, and 0.77m in depth, with steep and concave sides and a concave base. Its fill comprised a light-grey, silty clay deposit which had probably accumulated naturally during the life of the ditch. Limited quantities of cultural material were recovered from this feature, making dating problematic, although a Bronze Age date is considered most likely because pottery attributable to the Middle to Late Bronze Age includes eight sherds from an ovoid jar with an incurving rim, in a shell-tempered fabric (SHE), from fill 206, of ditch 204 (Ditch 5).

- 5.10 A short east/west-oriented section of Bronze Age ditch, Ditch 8, (Figs 3 and 5) may eventually have merged with the larger Bronze Age Ditch 6, although no trace of the eastward extension of this ditch was recorded in Evaluation Trench 1. It measured 11m in length and 0.78m in width, and had a broad west-north-west/east-south-east alignment. Pottery attributable to the Middle to Late Bronze Age, comprising a body-sherd in a coarse, quartz-tempered fabric (QZCE) from fill 340, was recovered from Ditch 8. It was filled with an orange/yellow-brown, moderate sandy clay, with frequent sub-rounded pebble inclusions.
- 5.11 A partly bifurcated ditch, Ditch 9, (Figs 3 and 6), ran approximately parallel to the larger enclosure Ditch 5, but its relationship with the larger ditch remained unclear, as the intersection between these two features had been truncated by a medieval furrow. Ditch 9 was 15m in length and 0.44m in width, with a depth of 0.12m. It was filled with a mid- brown, loose clay silt. Fill 342 of ditch terminal 341 (Ditch 9) produced a fine, flint-tempered (FLE) body-sherd from a vessel with applied strips (Fig. 17, P2). This pottery belongs to the Deverel-Rimbury urn tradition, which dates to the Middle Bronze Age, with a date-range of c. 1400-1000 BC
- 5.12 A pit, 323, containing two sherds of pottery of broadly prehistoric date, was situated within the enclosure partly defined by Ditches 5 and 6. It measured 1.16m in diameter and 0.17m in depth, and was filled with a mid-grey/brown, loose silty clay.
- 5.13 Further securely dated evidence of prehistoric activity which pre-dated the Iron Age / Roman transition included a small, circular pit 106 (Fig 7 ). This feature was c. 1m in diameter, with a depth of 0.32m, and was located close to the north-west limits of the excavation area, adjacent to the west of Roundhouse 1. It contained a mid-grey/brown, friable silty clay.

***Phase 4: Late Iron Age to Early Roman (c. 100BC – late 1st century AD)***

- 5.15 The excavation complemented the results of the initial geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2014) and field evaluation in confirming evidence for a small, Late Iron Age/early Roman farmstead settlement on the Site. Pottery of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman transitional period, comprises the greater bulk of the assemblage, at 618 sherds (7.607kg, 87% by sherd count). The narrow date-range of the recovered ceramic assemblage, between the later Iron Age and the mid-2nd century AD, appears to indicate a relatively short-lived settlement, although there is evidence of later Roman settlement to the north and west of the excavated area.

- 5.16 A gully, 116, (Fig 8.) was dated to the transitional Phase 4 on the basis of artefactual evidence, and by its truncation by the Late Iron Age / early Roman roundhouse gully 112 (Roundhouse 1). This feature may represent an earlier phase of occupation otherwise not identified on the site, possibly representing the remains of a roundhouse. It contained a mid-brown, friable silty clay. The full extent of this feature could not be revealed, as it extended beyond the edge of the excavation area on a NW/SE alignment. It was c. 4m in length, as excavated, with a width of 1.4m and a depth of 0.35m.
- 5.16 A Late Iron Age/early Roman roundhouse was identified within the northern corner of the site (Roundhouse 1, Figs 3 and 9). The full extent of the roundhouse was not recorded, as it extended beyond the edge of the excavated area, to the north-east. On the basis of recorded lengths of the penannular gully, the roundhouse had an estimated diameter of c.15m. The gully had a maximum width of 0.78m, with a depth of 0.15m, and contained a mid-grey/brown, friable silty clay.
- 5.17 A smaller, circular gully was recorded c. 25m to the south of Roundhouse 1, and probably represents a structure of late prehistoric date (Roundhouse 2, Figs 3 and 10). The gully had a diameter of c. 6m and depth of 0.2m, and was located within the centre of the site. Its small size suggests an agricultural or storage function, rather than a dwelling. As it had been truncated by the later Roman Ditch 1 (Fig 13), it is likely to be of Late Iron Age or Early Roman date. It was filled with a dark, grey-brown, compact sandy silt.
- 5.19 Pit Cluster 1 was located within the south-west corner of the enclosure, and may have been associated with domestic occupation associated with Roundhouse 1 (Fig 3). As excavated, the constituent pits totalled 34 in number, although further pits may be situated beyond the limited of excavation, to the north-east. The pits displayed considerable variation in terms of size and internal form and, when seen in in plan, do not conform to any coherent pattern suggestive of a post-built structure, but appear to be primarily associated with domestic refuse. The maximum excavated depth was only 0.15m, which indicates substantial plough truncation across this part of the site during the historical period.

- 5.20 Samples obtained from fill 105 of pit 104 (sample 1), within Roundhouse 1, and fill 180, within pit 179 of Pit Cluster 1 (sample 2), produced a small number of barley and emmer/spelt wheat grains, together with a small quantity of spelt wheat processing waste. A small assemblage of associated plant macrofossil remains included hazelnut, barley and wheat grains, vetches/peas clovers and brome seeds. The evidence of processing and use of barley and spelt wheat on this site is typical of the period, and suggests cultivation of some, or all, of these crops within the vicinity. The charred cereal/chaff composition of the material indicates the burning of crop waste, probably following initial threshing or winnowing.

***Phase 5: Roman (c. AD 75 – 2nd Century AD)***

- 5.21 The Bronze Age Ditches 5 and 6 were recut in the early Roman period (Ditch 6, Fig 4). As excavated, they measured 94m in length, with a width of 1.65m and a maximum depth of 0.49m. Their primary fill comprised a dark-grey, compact clay, with moderate gravel inclusions. The later recut followed the same NW/SE orientation as the earlier Bronze Age ditch. The character of the primary fill suggests natural silting under wet conditions.
- 5.22 The Late Iron Age/early Roman Ditches 1, 2 and 3 ran in a north-west/south-east direction across the centre of the site (Figs 3, 13, 14 and 15). Geophysical survey (Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015) suggests that these comprise elements of a complex scheme of settlement enclosure at this time, possibly involving more than one phase (Fig 18), and not field divisions as originally thought. The pottery recovered from these ditches included coarse and finewares, including central Gaulish samian dating to the middle of the second century AD.
- 5.23 Ditch 1 was 85m in length and 1.18m in width, and had a maximum depth of 0.55m (Figs 3 and 13). Pottery evidence indicates a date-range from the mid-1st to the early 2nd century. This ditch, characterised by a remarkably regular V-profile, contained a fill comprising a mid-grey/brown, friable, silty clay, with frequent gravel inclusions.
- 5.24 Ditch 2 (Fig 14) was 40m in length and 0.77m in width, and had a maximum depth of 0.30m (Figs 3 and 14). Pottery evidence indicates a mid-1st to early 2nd century date. It was filled with a mid-brown/grey, friable sandy silt, with moderate gravel inclusions. Ditch 2 was cut by Ditch 6 at its southernmost extent.

- 5.25 Ditch 3 (Figs 3 and 15) comprised a short section of ditch, which ran on a north-east/south-west alignment, and appeared to be cut by Ditches 1 and 2. It was filled with a mid-grey/brown, friable silty clay, with frequent gravel inclusions. It was 7.5m in length, with a width of 1m and a maximum depth of 0.19m.
- 5.26 Ditch 7 (Figs 3 and 16) was a finely-cut, north-west/south-east aligned Roman field boundary, which was dated to the mid-1st to early 2nd century AD. It was filled with a mid-brown, friable silty clay, with occasional gravel inclusions. It averaged 0.78m in width, with a maximum depth of 0.28m. This ditch appears to represent part of the later Roman phase of re-organisation of the site. The southward turn towards its westernmost extent appears to represent part of a funnelled entranceway possibly representing further evidence of stock-rearing on the site. The remarkably even, finely-cut character of Ditch 7 invites speculation regarding its role as a boundary feature, and the possibility that it may originally have been accompanied by a stock-proof hedge or palisade.
- 5.27 Two substantial pits, 104 and 131, located within the interior of Roundhouse 1, were of Period 5 date, and may plausibly post-date this building. Pit 104 had a width of 1.1m and an excavated depth of 0.15m, and pit 131 had a width of 1m and depth of 0.08m. Even allowing for the effects of later truncation, the shallow depth and profile of these pits preclude any interpretation as structural features, and as indeterminate features they are representative of later Roman occupation.
- 5.28 These pits may be broadly contemporary with others of comparable dimensions, which are located immediately to the south of Roundhouse 1. These included 133, 145 and 157. All were shallow, with depths ranging from 0.14m to 0.18m. Pits 133 and 145 were of Period 5 date, whereas 157 contained no dateable material.

### ***Phase 6: Medieval/post-medieval***

- 5.29 Five medieval furrows, running on a north-west/south-east alignment (Fig 3), were recorded during the course of excavation. These features ran parallel to the modern field boundary at intervals of c. 12m, and measured 4m in width. These dimensions are considerably greater than the average width of the *selions* associated with medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, and may suggest a somewhat later date.

**Undated**

5.30 Structure 1 (Fig 11) was the more westerly of the two suggested four-post structures. It had an overall length of c.5m, and a width of 3m. No artefacts were recovered from the fills of the constituent post holes, and the dating of these features is therefore not secure, although a late Iron Age date can be suggested on the basis of comparable structures elsewhere.

5.31 Structure 2 (Fig 12.) was the more easterly of the two suggested four-post structures. It had an overall length of c.4m, and a width of 4m. No artefacts were recovered from the fills of the post holes, and the dating of these features is therefore not secure, although a late Iron Age date can be suggested on the basis of comparable structures elsewhere

**6. THE FINDS**

6.1 Finds recovered are listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendices B and C.

**Table 1: Quantification of Finds**

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Early prehistoric	29	411
	Late prehistoric	52	380
	Roman	618	7607
	<i>Total</i>	<i>699</i>	<i>8398</i>
Worked flint		27	160
Burnt flint		85	62
Metalwork	Fe other	2	32
CBM		4	166
fired/burnt clay		31	127

**The Artefactual Assemblage**

6.2 The artefactual assemblage is overwhelmingly represented by pottery of the late Iron Age and Early Roman periods, including a significant transitional wheel-made group. With the exception of a small, complete, bipartite vessel of Early/Middle Bronze Age date, the assemblage of earlier prehistoric pottery was small and poorly preserved. A small assemblage of relatively undiagnostic worked flint was largely residual.



**The Pottery** by Jacky Sommerville and Ed McSloy***Introduction and methodology***

- 6.3 A total of 699 sherds (8.398 kg) of pottery was recovered from the evaluation and excavation of 68 separate deposits, and as unstratified finds. The majority of this material was retrieved from hand excavation, although 36 sherds (121g) were recovered from the bulk soil-sampling of three deposits from the excavation phase. The assemblage was sorted by fabric per context, and quantified by sherd count, weight and rim EVEs (estimated vessel equivalents). In addition, vessel form, rim morphology and any evidence for vessel use were recorded.
- 6.4 Pottery dating from the Early Bronze Age to the Roman period was recorded, and is described below, by period. The majority of the assemblage (91% by sherd count) was recovered from ditches/gullies. The remainder was retrieved mostly from pit fills. The largest context groups derive from: fill 182, of ditch 181 (Ditch 2, 114 sherds); fill 212, of ditch 211 (Ditch 1) (58 sherds); and fill 1004, of ditch 1006 (Ditch 1) (115 sherds). The total EVEs value of the assemblage is 6.15.
- 6.5 Prehistoric pottery fabrics are defined according to primary/secondary inclusion type, and are sometimes further sub-divided by inclusion size, and are described in summary, below.

***Early Prehistoric: Early and Middle/Late Bronze Age***

- 6.6 A total of 29 sherds (411g) is attributable with reasonable certainty to these periods. The Early Bronze Age material consists of a single, complete vessel from Period 2 pit 1106, which is described individually (P1). A further eight, unfeatured bodysherds (71g) were attributable to the prehistoric period on the basis of fabric and firing characteristics.

***Broad prehistoric: fabric***

- FLP Medium flint-tempered. Common, moderately-sorted flint (1. 2mm). Two sherds, 30g.  
 FLCP Coarse flint-tempered. Common, moderately-sorted flint (2. 4mm). One sherd; 31g.  
 QZP Medium quartz-tempered. Sparse, poorly-sorted quartz (0.5. 1mm). Two sherds, 3g.  
 VESP Vesicular fabric. Common vesicles (2. 3mm). Three sherds; 7g.

***Early Bronze Age: fabric***

- GRE Coarse, grog-tempered. Common, well-sorted grog (1. 2mm). Sparse voids from burnt-out organic matter. 18 sherds; 313g.

*Catalogue description*

P1 Miniature bipartite Collared Urn (Ra. 2). Complete. Fabric GRE. Patchy, light-brown/grey external surface, and light-brown interior. Simple rim and straight collar with pinched-out base (to the collar). The decoration is limited to the collar zone, and executed using repeated round-toothed comb impressions. The scheme consists of a lattice or saltire crosses (Longworth's Motif  $\pm$ q, within a border defined by horizontal lines. Ring diam. 80mm; Base diam. 75mm; height 105mm; Th. 5. 7mm. Pit 1106 (fill 1107).

*Discussion*

- 6.7 P1 is crudely made and small, and is within the lower size-range for the Collared Urn series, based on Longworth's (1984) corpus. Examples from the region which are comparably small, and of bipartite form, include those from Hanborough (*ibid.* Pl. 137, no. 1367); Long Wittenham (*ibid.* Pl. 137, no. 1376) and Abingdon (*ibid.* Pl. 131, no. 1350). Longworth grouped these examples within his Secondary Series/Southeast style; the combed decoration (also present with P1) being most characteristic of the regional grouping. Dating for P1 is late within the range expected for the Collared Urn series (c. 2200-1500 BC), and this date is also supported by Burgess's (1986) scheme: the bipartite form, pinched-out collar base and an absence of decoration below the collar being traits associated with his late style vessels (Burgess 1986).
- 6.8 Small quantities of poorly-preserved bone were recorded in association with vessel P1, although it could not be determined whether this was human in origin. Given the almost exclusively funerary associations of the Collared Urn series as a whole, it is highly probable that Pit 1106 represents a cremation burial. The small size of P1 clearly suggests its use as an accessory or offering, presumably in association with an un-urned cremation deposit which has been largely lost to truncation or other factors.

*Middle/Late Bronze Age: fabric*

- 6.9 FLE Medium flint-tempered. Common, moderately sorted flint (1. 2mm). One sherd; 31g.  
 QZCE Coarse quartz-tempered. Common, poorly sorted quartz (2. 6mm). One sherd; 36g.  
 SHE Shell-tempered. Abundant, well sorted shell (2. 8mm). Eight sherds; 18g.  
 QTE Quartzite-tempered. Common, moderately sorted quartzite (1. 3mm). One sherd; 14g.

*Discussion*

- 6.10 Material considered to date to this period was recorded from four deposits, and amounts to 11 sherds. The context group-size is small, and the very fragmentary condition of the material is reflected in a mean sherd weight of 9g. Consequently, dating must be regarded as tentative.
- 6.11 Fill 342 of ditch terminal 341 (Ditch 9) produced a fine, flint-tempered (FLE) body-herd from a vessel with applied strips (Fig. 17, P2). This pottery belongs to the Deverel-Rimbury urn tradition, which dates to the Middle Bronze Age, with a date-range of c. 1400-1000 BC (Gibson and Woods 1997, 142. 5).
- 6.12 Pottery attributable to the Middle to Late Bronze Age comprises a body-herd in a coarse, quartz-tempered fabric (QZCE) from fill 340, of ditch 339 (Ditch 8), and eight sherds from an ovoid jar with an incurving rim, in a shell-tempered fabric (SHE), from fill 206, of ditch 204 (Ditch 5).
- 6.13 A quartzite-tempered body-herd (QTE), from subsoil 1101 of the evaluation, is likely to date to the Late Bronze Age. Quartzite tempering has been noted in Late Bronze Age pottery at sites such as Eynsham, Oxon (Barclay 2001, 127. 30), and Milton Hill, Oxon (the latter approximately 5km south of Drayton) (McSloy 2012a, 231).

#### ***Late prehistoric***

- 6.14 Fifty-two sherds (380g) were identifiable as generically late prehistoric in date (i.e. Late Bronze Age to Late Iron Age). The average sherd weight of 7g suggests a moderately fragmented assemblage. In terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation, condition is assessed as mostly moderate to good. Evidence for use, in the form of external carbonised residues, was recorded on four sherds in a quartz-tempered fabric, from fill 108, of pit 107.

#### ***Late prehistoric: fabric***

- 6.15
- |      |  |
|------|--|
| FLL  | Medium, flint-tempered. Common, moderately-sorted flint (1. 3mm). Three sherds; 15g. |
| FLCL | Coarse, flint-tempered. Abundant, poorly-sorted flint (2. 8mm). One sherd; 19g.      |
| FLFL | Fine, flint-tempered. Common, moderately-sorted flint (1. 2mm). Seven sherds; 139g.  |
| GRL  | Grog-tempered. Common, moderately-sorted grog (1. 2mm). Eight sherds; 24g.           |
| LSL  | Limestone-tempered. Common, moderately-sorted limestone (1. 3mm). Two sherds; 13g.   |
| QTL  | Quartzite-tempered. Common, moderately-sorted quartzite (1. 6mm). Six sherds; 60g.   |
| QZL  | Medium quartz-tempered. Common, well-sorted quartz (0.5. 1mm). Thirteen sherds; 78g. |
| QZFL | Fine quartz-tempered. Sparse, poorly-sorted quartz (0.5mm). Two sherds; 2g.          |

- QZCL Coarse, quartz-tempered. Sparse, poorly-sorted quartz (1. 3mm). Two sherds, 9g.  
QZOR Quartz-and-organic tempered. Abundant, moderately-sorted quartz (0.5. 1mm). Sparse voids (2. 3mm long). Six sherds; 6g.  
VESL Vesicular fabric. Sparse vesicles (1. 2mm). Two sherds; 15g.

### *Discussion*

- 6.16 An Early Iron Age date is possible for a number of sherds, including a carinated vessel in a fine, flint-tempered fabric, from fill 1121, of gully 1120; and a possible cauldron/pot made in a quartzite-tempered fabric, from fill 242, of ditch 241 (Ditch 7). The latter is representative of a tradition common to the earlier Iron Age in the Upper Thames/Southern Oxfordshire areas, and recorded, for example, at Gravelly Guy (Duncan *et al.* 2004).
- 6.17 The Middle to Late Iron Age period is represented by body-sherds in limestone and quartz-tempered fabrics from fill 108, of pit 107; and the Late Iron Age by a carinated bowl or cup in a grog-tempered fabric, from fill 1213, of ditch 1212, within Evaluation Trench 12).

### ***Roman (including Late Iron Age/Early Roman transitional)***

- 6.18 Pottery of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman transitional period (Phase 4), comprises the greater bulk of the assemblage, at 618 sherds (7.607kg, 87% by sherd count). Most sherds were observed to be in good condition, although the average sherd weight of 12g is on the low side, and suggests a moderate degree of fragmentation. Several deposits contained substantially complete vessels: for example, fill 104 of ditch 103 within Evaluation Trench 1; fill 1004 of ditch 1006 within Evaluation Trench 10 (Ditch 1); and in particular fill 182 of ditch 181 (Ditch 2), which produced considerable proportions of three vessels with a total EVEs value of 1.77. Internal limey deposits were recorded on 26 sherds (all but one of these from ditch fill 1004), and external carbonised residues on 19 sherds.

### *Late Iron Age/Early Roman transitional*

- 6.19 Pottery of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman transitional period (Phase 4), comprises the greater bulk of the assemblage, at 618 sherds (7.607kg, 87% by sherd count). The majority of fabrics present comprise wheel-thrown quartz or grog-tempered types (Appendix B: Table 4).

- 6.20 A small proportion of this pottery represents fabrics and forms typical of the Belgic style, which commonly dates to the early to mid-1st century AD in this region. Included in these types are: a shouldered bowl with a cordon on the neck and a groove on the shoulder, in a quartz-tempered fabric (QZT) from fill 1004 of ditch 1006; and unfeatured body-sherds in a fine, grog-tempered fabric (GRF), from fill 208 of ditch 207 (Ditch 6). The remainder of the grog-tempered wares date more broadly to the 1st century AD.
- 6.21 Of particular note is a butt beaker copy in a grog-and-quartz tempered fabric (GRQZ), from fill 182, of ditch 181 (Ditch 2) (Fig. 3). This vessel features an unusual decorative scheme, with two rows of bosses between horizontal grooves. Similar vessels were recorded at West St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Oxon, and are thought to have been of local manufacture (Gallo-Belgic Pottery Database, online). This form is dateable to the mid-1st century AD, and bossed decoration has also been noted on two beakers of similar date from Silchester (Timby 2000, 236. 8; 261. 2).
- 6.22 A base-herd from a vessel, possibly a butt beaker copy, in Silty ware (SIL) was recovered from fill 191, of ditch 190 (Ditch 7, Fig. 3). This origin of this ware-type, first identified at Verulamium, is unknown, and it dates to a period immediately following the Roman conquest (Stead and Rigby 1989, 195).

### *Roman*

- 6.23 Just over one third of the pottery recovered (250 sherds, 2.499kg, 35% by sherd count) is of Roman date. The more closely dateable types indicate activity in the earlier Roman period, during the later 1st to 2nd centuries.
- 6.24 The bulk of the Roman assemblage represents coarsewares, most probably of relatively local manufacture, greywares (GWF, GWM, GWOR), black-firing, sand-tempered fabrics (BS), oxidised fabrics (OXID) and whitewares (WHF). Forms in reduced-firing fabrics include: necked jars from fill 1204 of ditch 1203 (GWF), and fill 212 of ditch 211 (GWM); and a medium-mouthed necked jar, from fill 104 of ditch 103 in Evaluation Trench 1 (BS). A copy of a Cam. 113 butt beaker, in a whiteware fabric (WHF) was recorded in fill 1208, of ditch 1206. This form dates to the mid to late 1st century AD.
- 6.25 The Oxford potteries are represented by fine oxidised (OXF FO), whiteware (OXF WH), and greyware (OXF GW) products. Manufacture of the fine, oxidised fabrics

began in the late 1st century (Young 1977, 189), and a beaker in this fabric was identified from fill 1208, of ditch 1206. Fill 1208 also produced a Young Type M6 whiteware mortarium of 2nd-century date (*ibid.*, 70. 1), and a reduced ware rim-sherd from a Young R45 bowl, which is dateable to the 2nd to 3rd centuries (*ibid.*, 220. 1).

- 6.26 The assemblage includes only two regional imports, both represented by single, unfeatured body-sherds. Dorset Black-burnished ware (DOR BB1) was retrieved from fill 1104, of ditch 1103. It was manufactured near Poole, in Dorset, and typically dates to the 2nd to 4th centuries when found outside this county (Davies *et al.* 1994, 107). Fill 1205, of ditch 1203, produced Savernake Grog-tempered ware (SAV GT), which was made during the 1st and earlier 2nd centuries around Savernake Forest, and other centres in Wiltshire (Tomber and Dore 1998, 191).
- 6.27 Continental imports total three sherds, all of central Gaulish samian (LEZ SA2). Of the two sherds recovered from evaluation ditch 1203, one is a base-sherd from a Drag. 38 bowl, from fill 1204. A rim-sherd from a Drag. 31R bowl was retrieved from fill 1208, of ditch 1206. Both forms are dateable to the mid to late 2nd century (Webster 1996, 35; 51).

## **Lithics** by Jacky Sommerville

### ***Introduction and methodology***

- 6.28 A total of 27 items of worked flint (160g), and 85 pieces of burnt, unworked flint (62g), was recovered from 21 deposits from the evaluation and excavation stages. Six of the worked flints, and all but two of the burnt, unworked flints, were recovered from the bulk soil-sampling of seven deposits.
- 6.29 The recovered lithic items were recorded according to broad artefact/debitage type, and were catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Access database. Attributes recorded include weight, colour, cortex description, degree of edge-damage (micro-flaking), rolling (abrasion), breakage, burning and patination. The latter is apparent as a white or blueish surface discoloration, resulting from chemical change within the burial environment (Shepherd 1972, 109). Debitage comprises flakes, blades and chips which do not feature secondary working; much of this material probably represents knapping waste, although a proportion is likely to have been utilised in an

unmodified state, as tools. Only the colour of chips was recorded, as it is their presence which is considered to be significant in providing evidence of stratified or *in situ* knapping activity.

### ***Raw material, provenance and condition***

- 6.30 The raw material in all cases is flint. The colour generally ranges from grey to brown, with six items displaying a degree of white discoloration as a result of moderate to heavy patination. Over half (15) of the worked flints, and the majority of the burnt, unworked items, were recovered from Roman-dated fills of pits and ditches. Fifty per cent of the worked lithics display moderate to heavy edge-damage, and 23% are moderately/heavily rolled. These figures are lower than might be expected for an assemblage of which over 50% is residual, and therefore these items are unlikely to have travelled far from where they were originally deposited.

### ***Range and variety***

#### *Primary technology*

- 6.31 Débitage totals 24 items: most of these are flakes but also included are two chips and four blades. The blades were all recovered as residual finds in subsoil or Roman-dated deposits, but are indicative of unspecified activity on the site during the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods. Of note is a particularly substantial blade from subsoil 102 (Ra. 1), which measures 200mm in length. Two of the blades display features which further support a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, namely the preparation of the striking platform, and evidence of soft-hammer percussion. Of the 17 flakes, one (fill 1207, of Roman ditch 1206) has also been soft hammer-struck from a core with a prepared platform, indicating a similar date for this item. The remainder of the flakes are only broadly dateable to the prehistoric period.
- 6.32 Two multi-platform flake cores were recovered from the site. The example from fill 257, of undated ditch 258, features numerous overhangs on the last striking platform to be worked, demonstrating that this platform had not been prepared. The core, from fill 332, of Roman-dated pit 331, is very small, and appears to have been made on a flake blank. Neither of these cores is a diagnostic type.

#### *Secondary technology*

- 6.33 The only retouched tool is an end scraper recovered from fill 1205, of Roman-dated ditch 1203. It was made on a relatively thick flake blank, and the retouch, along the

distal dorsal edge, is steep and rather irregular. This tool type is not closely dateable.

### **Stratified lithics**

- 6.34 Soil sampling of fill 1107, of cremation burial pit 1106, and fill 1125 (contained within vessel Ra. 2), produced a total of 13 small fragments (2.3g) of burnt, unworked flint, and one flint chip.

### **Iron objects** by Jacky Sommerville

- 6.35 Two iron objects (32g) were recorded during the evaluation and excavation phases.
- 6.36 A circular iron buckle, measuring 14mm in external diameter, was recovered from topsoil 100. It is a type which would have been used on shoes or clothing, and is dateable to the 13th to 16th centuries (Goodall 1980, 174; Fig 131).
- 6.37 Fill 180 of Roman-dated pit 179 produced a curved bar fragment. It is in a moderately corroded condition, and its original form is uncertain.

### **Ceramic building material** by Jacky Sommerville

- 6.38 A total of four fragments of ceramic building material (196g) was recovered from the evaluation and excavation stages. Three fragments are dateable to the Roman period, including a fragment of tile from fill 1208, of ditch 1206.
- 6.39 A fragment retrieved from bulk soil sampling of fill 154, of pit 153, is too small for dating or classification. However, this deposit has been assigned a Roman date on the basis of associated pottery.

### **Fired clay** by Jacky Sommerville

- 6.40 A total of 31 fragments (127g) of fired clay was recorded in nine deposits recorded in the evaluation and excavation stages. Of these, seven fragments were recovered from the bulk soil-sampling of four deposits.



- 6.41 The majority of fragments are orange in colour, with a small number present in a grey fabric. Of these, all but two are soft-fired, with one medium and one hard. Fabrics are mostly sandy, with several from fill 212, of Roman-dated ditch 211, also featuring flint inclusions. Fragments are mostly amorphous, and do not display any surfaces or features which might indicate a function.
- 6.42 A total of seven fragments of ceramic plate (129g) was retrieved from fill 105, of pit 104, and fill 109, of pit 108, both of which were dated to the early Roman period on the basis of associated pottery. The fabrics are medium-fired, and contain coarse rock and possible glauconite (fill 109), and organic inclusions (fill 105). Similar finds from other sites in Oxfordshire have been interpreted as lids, oven furniture or warming plates. They have been consistently dated to the early Roman period (Sanders 1979, 53. 4; McSloy 2012a, 253. 4).
- 6.43 A fragment from fill 158, of undated pit 15, also presents in a fabric with coarse rock and possible glauconite inclusions, which is hard-fired. It retains two surfaces, and may represent a fragment from a ceramic plate or a kiln bar.

**7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

7.1 Biological evidence recovered is listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendices D and E.

**Table 2: Quantification of Biological Evidence**

Type	Category	Count
Animal bone	Fragments (ID to species)	386
Samples	Environmental	8

**Animal Bone** by Andrew Clarke

**Introduction**

7.2 A collection of animal bones, numbering 386 fragments (2833g), was recovered through a combination of hand excavation and bulk soil-sampling from 45 features. For the purpose of this report, the bones were identified to species and skeletal elements using an osteological reference collection (Cotswold Archaeology Ltd), in addition to standard reference literature (Schmid 1972; Hillson 1996; Lyman 1994),

and were quantified by fragment count and weight. Where modern breakage was observed and re-fitting was possible, those fragments were recorded as a single bone. The poorly-preserved bone found in association with the Bronze Age collared urn was not included within this assessment.

- 7.3 The animal bone displayed varying degrees of preservation, and was highly fragmented, with frequent historical and modern damage. This has rendered 81% of the assemblage unidentifiable beyond a basic level of attribution to cattle, or sheep-sized, species. However, it has been possible to positively identify the remains of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), pig (*Sus scrofa sp.*) and horse (*Equus caballus*). These are all commonly-exploited domestic species that are encountered in faunal assemblages from the Neolithic onwards (Baker and Worley, 2014).

*Phase 3: Middle Late Bronze/Age to Early Iron Age*

- 7.3 A total of 37 fragments (703g) was recovered from nine deposits associated with the Bronze Age Enclosure Ditches 5 and 8. The majority of this material (29 out of 37 fragments) was highly fragmented and unidentifiable. However, due to the survival of more robust skeletal elements, it was possible to identify cattle, sheep/goat and horse from fragments of mandible, isolated molars and shafts of the lower limbs. A sheep/goat tibia, from fill 257, within Ditch 5, displayed cut-marks which suggested an origin in butchery waste. However, the low level of recovery precluded any inference beyond species identification.

*Phase 4: Late Iron Age to Early Roman*

- 7.4 The Phase 4 Roundhouses 1 and 2, and Pit Cluster 1, produced 114 fragments (339g) of bone, from eight deposits. The material was highly fragmented and showed evidence of having been gnawed and exposed to the elements, rendering most of the bone (104 out of 114 fragments) unidentifiable to species. Cattle, sheep/goat and horse were once again identified from fragments of mandible and lower limb-bone shafts, and no cut and/or chop marks indicative of butchery were present. As with the preceding phase, the species identified were not recovered in sufficient numbers to make possible any further interpretation, and given its state of preservation, this material may well be residual in nature.

*Phases 4 to 5: late Iron Age/Early Roman to Roman*

- 7.5 A total of 12 fragments (85g) of animal bone were recovered from the fills of pit 108 and ditches 211 and 345. The bone was in a fair state of preservation, and cattle, sheep/goat and pig were identified from meat-poor skeletal elements, including isolated teeth and bones of the feet. No marks pertaining to butchery were observed, and, once again, the low level of recovery precluded any inference beyond species identification.

*Phase 5: later Roman*

- 7.6 Accounting for 55% of the overall assemblage, the Phase 5 Roman features produced the largest quantities of datable bone, with 204 fragments (1703g) recovered from the fills of 23 deposits. It may be possible to relate this evidence to a possible intensification of agricultural activity at this time, and to evidence suggesting the reorganisation of the scheme of ditched enclosures across the site. Bones from cattle were recovered from ten deposits, with 15 fragments representing 35% of the identified material. Only meat-poor elements were present which, while not displaying any actual cut and/or chop marks, had been fractured in a manner suggesting carcass dismemberment using a cleaver; a practice that leaves the waste bone with an irregular, splintered fracture, rather than a clean-cut chop-mark. A mandible fragment from ditch 140 (Ditch 2) provided an estimated age at death of less than two years of age.
- 7.7 A total of 24 sheep/goat bones, accounting for 57% of all identified material, were recovered from 13 deposits. As with the cattle remains, only meat-poor elements were present, and evidence of butchery was noted only from the pattern of historical fractures. Age at death was estimated from a mandible and metacarpal, from ditch 192 (Ditch 6), at less than one year old.
- 7.8 The remains of horse were also identified, with evidence of three individuals recovered from pits 131 and 133, and ditch 138 (Ditch 1).
- 7.9 Although no physical remains of this species were identified, it is probable that dogs were also present on site during this period, as much of the recovered bone assemblage showed clear evidence of having been gnawed. This is significant in view of the fact that the identified species were principally represented by the more robust skeletal elements, such as distal long-bones and teeth. Therefore, a taphonomic bias in this evidence cannot be ruled out

- 7.10 The Roman assemblage contained only meat-poor elements of cattle and sheep/goat, many of which displayed historical fracture patterns that are common to the initial stages of butchery immediately following slaughter. In addition, age-at-death data were recovered which, although too limited to indicate systems of husbandry, suggested that both species are likely to have been bred nearby.
- 7.11 The remains of horse were not recovered in sufficient quantity to permit any useful interpretative inference, beyond simple identification of species.

### **Plant Macrofossils and Charcoal** By Sarah Cobain

#### **Introduction**

- 7.12 A total of eight bulk soil samples were processed, and analysis carried out on the plant macrofossil and charcoal remains, to provide additional information regarding the functions of features sampled, evidence of socio-economic activities, and to infer the composition of local woodland and flora.

#### **Methodology**

- 7.13 Plant macrofossil and charcoal remains were retrieved by standard flotation procedures. The seeds were identified with reference to Cappers *et al.* (2006), Neef *et al.* (2012), Berggren (1981) and Anderberg (1994). Nomenclature and habitat description follows Stace (1997). Full methodological details are available in the archive.

#### **Results**

- 7.14 The full results are presented in Tables 6 and 7, Appendix D.

#### **Discussion**

##### *Phase 2 Early to Middle Bronze Age*

- 7.15 Two samples were recovered from the fill, 1125 (sample 2), of collared urn vessel 1107 (Ra 2), which had been placed within pit 1106, together with the backfill, 1107 (sample 1), within pit 1106. Fill 1125 contained a single false-oat grass tuber (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), and fills 1125 and 1107 contained a small amount of charcoal identified as oak (*Quercus*) and cherry species (*Prunus*). Cremation burials usually contain some charcoal which became accidentally incorporated with cremated bone when pyre material was collected for burial. In this case, it appears that oak

and cherry species were used for pyre construction. Oak fuel was commonly used for cremation pyres of this period, as it reaches the high temperatures required to fully cremate human remains. Charred false-oat grass tubers are commonly observed in cremation burial deposits, and are thought to have been either used as tinder, or to represent an incidental inclusion associated with the location of the pyre in a grassy area.

*Phase 4: Late Iron Age to Early Roman*

- 7.16 The main evidence for possible cereal use was recovered from fill 105 (sample 1), of pit 104, located within Roundhouse 1, within the northern corner of the site, and fill 180 (sample 3) within pit 179, within Pit Cluster 1, towards the south-west of the enclosure. Pit 104 contained a small number of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and emmer/spelt wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/Triticum spelta*) cereal grains, spelt wheat glume-bases and bromes (*Bromus*) seeds, and three fragments of charcoal which were identified as oak. Pit 179 contained a small assemblage of plant macrofossil remains, including a single hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell, barley and wheat cereal grains, three spelt wheat glume-bases, vetches/peas (*Vicia/Lathyrus*), medick/clovers (*Medicago/Trifolium*) and bromes seeds. Charcoal was relatively rare and identified as oak. Crops utilised on site included both barley and spelt wheat, which are typical of the period. The charred cereal/chaff composition is indicative of burnt waste, derived either from the initial threshing/winning or parching/pounding stages of crop processing, or from domestic food production. However, given the small size of the charred assemblages, it is not possible to deduce which stages of processing activity were taking place within each area of the site.

*Phase 5: later Roman*

- 7.17 Samples recovered from fill 154 (samples 2 and 4), within pit 153, contained a small number of plant remains, including a charred elder seed (*Sambucus nigra*) and indeterminate cereal grains. Charcoal was rare, with only three unidentifiable fragments recovered. The paucity and poor preservation of this material precludes any further interpretation of these results.
- 7.18 In addition, two samples were recovered from Ditch 2 (sample 5), and from Ditch 6 (sample 6). The two samples contained no charred plant macrofossil material, and only a small amount of charcoal, which was identified as oak, alder/hazel, hawthorn/rowan/crab apple and cherry species. Given the small and highly-

fragmented nature of this charcoal, it is probably residual material, possibly originating from wind-blown hearth debris.

## 8. DISCUSSION

### ***Mesolithic-Early Neolithic (c.10000-c.2400 BC)***

- 8.1 Limited evidence of Mesolithic or early Neolithic activity on the site consisted of four blades recovered as residual finds in subsoil or Roman-dated deposits. These are indicative of no more than unspecific, transient activity on the site during these periods. In this sense, the site may be simply representative of recorded wider distributions of flint-work of this date within the surrounding area.

### ***Bronze Age (2400 BC – 700 BC)***

- 8.2 The earliest phase of archaeological activity on site comprised a curvilinear enclosure, Ditch 5, and two other linear ditches, Ditches 8 and 9, which may have comprised part of the same Bronze Age enclosure system. In appearing to mark a clear demarcation between distinct soil types, these ditches may have delineated the extent of the gravel island on which the site is located, and thus distinguished it from the surrounding alluvial floodplain. No trace of an external bank was confirmed by excavation, and the ditch may have functioned primarily as a drainage feature, and protected the site from seasonal flooding. Very limited dating evidence was recovered from Ditch 5, suggesting that it was regularly cleaned or re-cut during the original period of occupation.
- 8.3 A Middle Bronze Age ditch (Ditch 9), runs parallel to the larger enclosure ditch, although its precise relationship with the larger Ditch 5 is unknown, as evidence of any stratigraphic relationship has been truncated by a later medieval furrow. It is possible that this ditch may represent a later phase of land management. A Middle to Late Bronze Age enclosure ditch (Ditch 8) runs in a NW/SE direction and appears to merge with the larger Bronze Age enclosure ditch (Ditch 5). This may possibly represent an extension of Ditch 5 that was later abandoned. Geophysical survey evidence (Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015) suggests that some elements of the scheme of Bronze Age ditches were partly overlain or cut by Late Iron Age/Early Roman enclosure ditches, and may therefore have been deliberately infilled or become naturally silted by this time.

- 8.4 The Middle and Late Bronze Age periods throughout the Upper Thames Valley are elsewhere characterised by evidence of agricultural intensification and ongoing clearance. Interstitial areas of woodland are known to have existed, as at Shorcote Quarry, Gloucestershire (Robinson 2002), and the sparse charcoal evidence from this site suggests at least some local availability of woodland resources. Evidence elsewhere, including at Gravelly Guy, Stanton Harcourt, indicates extensive land clearance by the end of the second millennium BC, both within the main river floodplain, and around the smaller tributaries (Scaife 2004; Robinson 2004). While crop remains of this period are attested at a number of sites in the Upper Thames Valley, evidence of cultivation and crop production is otherwise fairly meagre. The limited and poorly preserved faunal assemblage of this date is at least indicative of a regime of mixed livestock husbandry, which broadly conforms to faunal evidence from other sites in this area. This interpretation may be supported by extensive environmental evidence for Bronze Age pastoralism across the Upper Thames region (Robinson 1992; 2002), combined with more limited evidence of cultivation, although recovered faunal assemblages have generally, as here, been small.
- 8.5 The small collared urn vessel accompanying what appears to be a deposit of poorly-preserved burnt bone within pit 1106 of the evaluation (CA 2015), plausibly represents an offering accompanying an otherwise un-urned cremation burial. Given the limited extent of excavation in this case, it is not possible to speculate whether this suggested burial represents an isolated example, or comprised part of a larger group. A considerable proportion of the Middle Bronze Age cremation burials recorded within the Upper Thames region have been associated with urns, although many examples were unaccompanied. A notable number are associated, as here, with artefacts, including pottery and flint-work, although the majority are not well dated. Evidence elsewhere in the region, most notably at Yarnton (Hey *et al* 2011) suggests that individual pits containing cremation burials are likely to be distributed at various points within the near environs of settlement, or individually, in relation to land boundaries (Lambrick and Robinson 2009, 306-7). The relationship with a near-contemporary ditch may be significant in this respect, and may indicate that the ditch was recognised primarily as a boundary feature, rather than one which simply facilitated drainage.
- 8.6 Palaeoenvironmental evidence suggests that the Upper Thames floodplain was not subject to extensive flooding throughout the Bronze Age period, and may have had a lower water-table than in succeeding periods (Robinson 2002). This supports a

wider body of evidence suggesting the rapid spread of settlement forms and cultivation during this period, as evidenced at Yarnton, amongst a number of investigated sites (Hey *et al* 2011). On a number of these sites, the accumulation of clay alluvial soils did not occur until the end of the Iron Age (Robinson 1992; Lambrick 1992).

### **Early Iron Age (700-400 BC)**

- 8.6 An Early Iron Age date is possible for a number of sherds, including a carinated vessel in a fine, flint-tempered fabric, from fill 1121, of gully 1120; and a possible cauldron/pot made in a quartzite-tempered fabric, from fill 242, of ditch 241 (Ditch 7). While possibly representative of early Iron Age activity on the Site, no direct continuity with Middle Bronze Age settlement can be proven. Later prehistoric settlements on the gravel terraces of the Upper Thames Valley exhibit different patterns of change during the Iron Age. The lower-lying settlements associated with the valley floor are generally characterised by relatively short-lived farmsteads, which appear to be generally engaged with pastoralism (Lambrick and Robinson 1979, 1988). A more recent body of evidence, as here, has identified a Bronze Age precursor to the later Iron Age pattern, which appears to be generally dispersed in character and favouring areas of lower ground, including the river floodplain. Interestingly, there are only a few Middle or Late Bronze Age farmstead sites which do not demonstrate close spatial associations with later Iron Age settlement, although evidence of direct settlement continuity between these periods is rare. Such earlier sites tend to be less archaeologically visible than those of the Iron Age, and are correspondingly under-represented in the archaeological record. Most Middle and Late Iron Age enclosed farmsteads therefore appear to be established as *de novo* settlements, after a considerable settlement hiatus. The reasons for settlement discontinuity after the later Bronze Age are not immediately apparent, but may well be related to climatic deterioration and rising water tables, accompanied by progressive abandonment of the river floodplain and lower terraces.

### **Late Iron Age – Early Roman (c.100 BC- late 1st Century AD)**

- 8.7 A Late Iron Age/Early Roman roundhouse of c.15m diameter was recorded within the northern corner of the excavated area (Roundhouse 1). This accorded with the evidence of the geophysical survey (Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015), although the full extent of Roundhouse 1 was not revealed, as this feature extended beyond the north-eastern limits of the excavation. A smaller roundhouse, of possible



Iron Age date (Roundhouse 2), was recorded to the south of Roundhouse 1. Any further interpretation of this building was constrained by the effects of plough truncation, although it seems likely to have comprised an ancillary structure, such as a cattle enclosure or pen, rather than a domestic dwelling. The limited excavated evidence precludes any firm conclusions regarding a detailed architectural plan, although the estimated diameter of Roundhouse 1, at 15m, is within the upper range of recorded regional examples (Sharples 2010, 192-3). Within a late Iron Age and early Roman context, Roundhouse 1 appears to reflect the conservatism of indigenous traditions, and is therefore broadly typical of the Upper Thames region in making few early concessions to Romanised building plans (Harding 2009, 151-153). Assuming that Roundhouse 1 survived to the end of the limited period of occupation associated with the excavated area i.e. the early second century AD, its eventual demise may have marked radical changes in the layout and settlement focus of the site.

- 8.8 A cluster of pits (Pit Cluster 1) within the western corner of the excavated area may be associated with the occupation of Roundhouse 1, and possibly used for waste disposal. The relatively shallow nature of these pits reflects the level of truncation associated with later farming practices, and otherwise provided little evidence of their intended function.
- 8.6 More recent geophysical survey (Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015) has identified the extent and plan of the Late Iron Age and Roman phases of enclosed settlement (Fig 18). These are evident as a complex of ditched enclosures, which appear to have an ambiguous relationship with the earlier Bronze Age ditches crossing the site. Other ditched features, especially on the northern side of the site may conceivably relate to a Bronze Age enclosed settlement form although, if so, it is striking that so little evidence of occupation of this date was recorded within the area excavated. The geophysical survey clearly shows that elements of the Late Iron Age/early Roman ditches cut, or overlie, the Bronze Age Ditch 6, suggesting that this may have been infilled or gone out of use for at least part of this period.
- 8.7 Roundhouse 1 is clearly visible within the geophysics plot, and is situated within a relatively open area within the south-west of the enclosure complex. The middle section is represented by two conjoined rectilinear enclosures, with narrow connecting subdivisions suggestive of livestock handling-passages, or races. These appear to abut larger paddock areas on the north-east side, which are again

associated with possible trackway or livestock handling features. A number of linear ditched features extend beyond the limits of the survey, and appear to represent radial field boundaries associated with the settlement. As revealed in plan by geophysical survey, the settlement is broadly typical of a range of enclosed settlement forms on the Upper Thames floodplain and lower terraces. These usually, as here, comprise one or more houses associated with enclosed pens, paddocks and work areas, and are usually demarcated by shallow ditches. In this case, the layout of the settlement and its component enclosures has clearly been subject to some degree of modification or enlargement during the course of a relatively brief chronology, and at least some elements may relate to a Bronze Age phase of activity. The outer enclosures on the north-east side are reminiscent of excavated regional examples of livestock corrals, and may thus be broadly comparable with those at Watkins Farm, Northmoor (Allen 1990), and Mingies Ditch, Hardwick (Allen and Robinson 1993). A closer example at Corporation Farm, Abingdon (Barclay *et al* 2003b, 37-40) may offer a further parallel.

- 8.8 The feature characterised as a barrow mound remains problematic. Although its stratigraphic relationship with the site, sealing four securely-dated early Roman ditches, must at least indicate a later Roman or post-Roman date, it otherwise displays characteristics which are broadly diagnostic of a burial mound, including an originally-surveyed sub-circular plan of c. 35m diameter. As investigated, the mound was evident as a low-lying, plough-degraded feature, with mound make-up surviving to a depth of c. 0.75m (CA 2015). Although not depicted on First-edition Ordnance Survey mapping, the mound has been depicted on later editions, and accordingly labelled as ~~the~~ *tumulus*. The original limits of the mound appear to be partly, but eccentrically, demarcated by a sub-circular or ovoid ditch, which is evident on earlier geophysical survey plots (ArchaeoPhysica 2014; Ditch 10, Fig 2), but not on the most recent (Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics 2015). This ditch extends across the modern field boundary to the south-west, and approximately conforms to the extent of the barrow as depicted on earlier Ordnance Survey mapping. The most recent 2015 geophysical survey indicates that the mound is closely respected by surrounding enclosure ditches, which appear to leave a comfortable and remarkably consistent margin between the mound and the surrounding enclosure ditches. The incorporation of earlier funerary monuments within late Iron Age Settlement forms is well attested elsewhere (cf Bradley 2002, 60-67), and such could plausibly be the case here, were it not for the clear evidence that the mound post-dates early Roman features on the Site. Any suggested

association with the Bronze Age cremation pit 1106 presents further difficulties. An interpretation as an early Saxon *hlæwe* has been suggested, which seems reasonable in terms of stratigraphic relationships and a well-attested local barrow traditions, but begs the question of the remarkably precise location of this monument within an earlier scheme of enclosure ditches.

- 8.9 The excavation confirmed the results of the geophysical survey and field evaluation, that the remains of a small Late Iron Age / early Roman agricultural settlement were present on the site. Most of the pottery assemblage recovered from the excavated area dates to between the mid-1st and the mid- 2nd centuries AD. This date-range represents a limited period of occupation of 100 years, or less, and is comparable with that of many contemporary small farmstead settlements. The pottery assemblage and datable cut features, have some potential to further understanding of processes of change within rural British communities during the early Roman period, and most particularly of changes of settlement form and function. More indirectly, the pottery assemblage retains some potential for addressing issues of social identity and levels of acculturation within the Roman settlement landscape (Taylor 2001, 48-54).
- 8.10 Particularly relevant in this context is the narrow date-range of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery assemblage, which appears to indicate a hiatus in domestic occupation in this part of the site from the early-mid second century AD or, conversely, a shift of settlement focus across the site at this time (cf Taylor 2007, 8). Such an apparently limited chronology is at variance with recorded date-ranges from other parts of the site, most notably the 2nd to 4th-century dates recorded from Ditch 1103 of Trench 11, and the 1st to 4th. century date of surface-collected pottery from north of the excavated area (Oxfordshire HER). This appears to considerably extend the chronology of the wider site, most probably indicating a shift in settlement focus beyond the area of Roundhouse 1, with possibly attendant changes in site status and function. This evidence for change within the site may be broadly contemporary with the structural changes in rural settlement in the early-mid second century AD, which have been widely-observed elsewhere. These generally involve the abandonment of lower-status indigenous settlements in response to emerging Roman urban centres and developing road networks. In this case, the early Roman pottery assemblage included a number of items, including mortarium and central Gaulish samian, which are relatively untypical of rural sites of this date, and which may indicate a level of status which favoured longer-term survival.

- 5.17 The pottery assemblage recovered from excavation is overwhelmingly represented by local coarsewares, with a relative paucity of continental and regional imports. In particular, the low overall incidence of central Gaulish samian within the assemblage is typical of a range of sites occupying the lowest tier of the rural settlement hierarchy (Willis 1998; Hingley 1989; Booth 2012). However, the assemblage also included an early Oxford ware beaker and mortarium, which are unusual in this context. While the Abingdon Road site is broadly typical of lower-status Romano-British farming settlements within the Upper Thames valley, it retains some limited potential to add to our knowledge of patterns of occupation and land management within the region. In this case, it is difficult to reach precise conclusions regarding the nature of the farming practiced, although biological evidence and the evidence of geophysical survey suggest a largely pastoral regime which exploited low-lying land within surrounding river floodplains and lower terraces. Both cattle and sheep bones were recovered from the excavation, although in small quantities. Conversely, very limited plant macrofossil evidence for cereal production could conceivably indicate some reliance on a mixed farming economy, although cereals could equally have been imported onto the site from elsewhere. The prevalent evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation across the site is testimony to its fertility and suitability for cultivation during the medieval period, and there is therefore no reason why such conditions should not also have prevailed in the later prehistoric and Roman periods.

### ***Medieval/post-medieval***

- 8.15 Evidence of medieval farming activity on the site is indicated by the five medieval furrows running in a north-west/ south-east direction, which were recorded during the course of the excavation, and found to have truncated a number of earlier features. They ran parallel to the modern field boundary at intervals of 10-12m, and measured c. 4m in width. Ridge and furrow features are diagnostic of medieval ploughing practices within an open-field system, although these cultivation strips are somewhat wider than those usually encountered.

## **9. CA PROJECT TEAM**

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Ray Kennedy, assisted by Tony Brown, Jack Marten Jones, Stephanie Duensing, Katherine Hebbard and Nida Bhunnoo. The report was written by Ray Kennedy and Richard Massey. The pottery reports were written by Ed McSloy and Jacky Sommerville, the worked flint report by Jacky Sommerville, the metalwork report by Jacky Sommerville, the faunal remains report by Andrew

Clarke, and the plant microfossils and charcoal report by Sarah Cobain. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price and Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Andrew Donald. The fieldwork was managed for CA by Damian De Rosa, and the post-excavation was managed by Richard Massey.

## 10. STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices in Andover while post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project, and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited, under Accession Number OXCMS: 2015.193, with Oxfordshire Museum Services, which has agreed in principle to accept the complete archive upon completion of the project. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix F, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

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**APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS****Table 3: Context Descriptions**

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date	Set
101	Layer		Topsoil			
102	Layer		Subsoil			
103	Layer		Natural			
104	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 104		
105	Fill	104	Fill of pit		LC1-C2	
106	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 106		
107	Fill	106	Fill of Pit		IA+	
108	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 108		
109	Fill	108	Fill of Pit		MLC1	
110	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 110		Ditch 1
111	Fill	110	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
112	Cut		Cut of Drip Gully	Gully 112		Roundhouse 1
113	Fill	112	Fill of Drip Gully		MC1-EC2	
114	Cut		Cut of Ditch Terminus	Ditch 114		Roundhouse 1
115	Fill	114	Fill of Ditch		IA-C1	
116	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 116		
117	Fill	116	Fill of Ditch		LPRE	
118	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 118		Roundhouse 1
119	Fill	118	Fill of Ditch		LC1-C2	
120	Layer		Possible mound material			
121	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 121		Roundhouse 1
122	Fill	121	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
123	Cut		Cut of Ditch Terminus	Ditch 123		Roundhouse 1
124	Fill	123	Fill of Ditch			
125	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 125		Roundhouse 1
126	Fill	125	Fill of Ditch			
127	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 127		Roundhouse 1
128	Fill	127	Fill of Ditch			
129	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 129		
130	Fill	129	Fill of Ditch			
131	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 131		
132	Fill	131	Fill of Pit		C1-EC2	
133	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 133		
134	Fill	133	Fill of Pit		MC1-EC2	
135	Cut		Cut of Ditch Terminus	Ditch 135		Roundhouse 1
136	Fill	135	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
137	Fill	129	Fill of Ditch			
138	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 138		Ditch 1
139	Fill	138	Fill of Ditch		LC1-EC2	
140	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 140		Ditch 2
141	Fill	140	Fill of Ditch			
142	Fill	144	Fill of Ditch		MLC1	
143	Fill	144	Fill of Ditch			
144	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 144		Ditch 1
145	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 145		
146	Fill	145	Fill of Pit			
147	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 147		
148	Fill	147	Fill of Pit		MC1-EC2	
149	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 149		Ditch 2
150	Fill	149	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
151	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 151		Ditch 1
152	Fill	151	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
153	Cut		Possible Cremation Pit	Pit 153		
154	Fill	153	Fill of Pit		MC1-EC2	
155	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 155		Ditch 3
156	Fill	155	Fill of Ditch			

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date	Set
157	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 157		
158	Fill	157	Fill of Pit			
159	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 159		
160	Fill	159	Fill of Pit			
161	Cut		Cut of Ditch Terminus	Ditch 161		Ditch 2
162	Fill	161	Fill of Ditch		C1	
163	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 163		
164	Fill	163	Fill of Pit			
165	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 165		
166	Fill	165	Fill of Pit			
167	Fill	159	Fill of Pit			
168	Fill	165	Fill of Pit			
169	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 169		
170	Fill	169	Fill of Pit			
171	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 171		
172	Fill	171	Fill of Pit			
173	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 173		
174	Fill	174	Fill of Pit			
175	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 175		
176	Fill	175	Fill of Pit			
177	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 177		Pit Cluster 1
178	Fill	177	Fill of Pit			
179	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 179		Pit Cluster 1
180	Fill	179	Fill of Pit		LC1-C2	
181	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 181		Ditch 2
182	Fill	181	Fill of Ditch		MLC1	
183	Fill	179	Fill of Pit			
184	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 184		Pit Cluster 1
185	Fill	184	Fill of Pit			
186	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 186		
187	Fill	186	Fill of Pit			
188	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 188		Pit Cluster 1
189	Fill	188	Fill of Pit			
190	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 190		Ditch 7
191	Fill	190	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
192	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 192		Ditch 6
193	Fill	192	Fill of Ditch		LIA-C1	
194	Cut		Cut of gully	Gully 194		Roundhouse 2
195	Fill	194	Fill of gully		MC1-EC2	
196	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 196		Ditch 5
197	Fill	196	Fill of Ditch			
198	Cut		Cut of Gully	Gully 198		Roundhouse 2
199	Filly	198	Fill of Gully		C1-EC2	
200	Cut		Cut of Gully	Gully 200		Roundhouse 2
201	Fill	200	Fill of Gully			
202	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 202		Ditch 7
203	Fill	202	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
204	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 204		Ditch 5
205	Fill	204	Fill of Ditch			
206	Fill	204	Fill of Ditch		MLBA;C1	
207	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 207		Ditch 6
208	Fill	207	Fill of Ditch		LIA-C1	
209	Cut		Cut of Gully	Gully 209		Roundhouse 2
210	Fill	209	Fill of Gully			
211	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 211		
212	Fill	211	Fill of Ditch		MLC1	Ditch 1
213	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 213		Ditch 7
214	Fill	213	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
215	Fill	209	Fill of Gully			
216	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 216		Ditch 7
217	Fill	216	Fill of Ditch			
218	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 218		Ditch 7

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date	Set
219	Fill	218	Fill of Ditch			
220	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 220		Ditch 7
221	Fill	220	Fill of Ditch			
222	Fill	204	Fill of Ditch			
223	Fill	204	Fill of Ditch			
224	Fill	227	Fill of Ditch		MLC1	
225	Fill	227	Fill of Ditch			
226	Fill	227	Fill of Ditch			
227	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 227		Ditch 6
228	Fill	229	Fill of Ditch			
229	Cut		Cut of Gully	Gully 229		
230	Fill	232	Fill of Ditch			
231	Fill	232	Fill of Ditch			
232	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 232		Ditch 5
233	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 233		Ditch 3
234	Fill	233	Fill of Ditch			
235	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 235		Ditch 1
236	Fill	235	Fill of Ditch			
237	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 237		Ditch 3
238	Fill	237	Fill of Ditch			
239	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 239		Ditch 2
240	Fill	239	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
241	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 241		Ditch 7
242	Fill	241	Fill of Ditch		EIA?	
243	Fill	241	Fill of Ditch			
244	Fill	241	Fill of Ditch			
245			Void			
246			Void			
247			Void			
248			Void			
249	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 249		
250	Fill	249	Fill of Ditch		C1	
251	Layer		Spread		C1-EC2	
252	Fill	253	Fill of Gully		MC1-EC2	
253	Cut		Cut of Gully	Gully 353		
254	Fill	255	Fill of Ditch		C1	
255	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 255		Ditch 6
256	Fill	258	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
257	Fill	258	Fill of Ditch			
258	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 258		Ditch 5
259	Fill	260	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
260	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 260		
261	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 261		Ditch 7
262	Fill	261	Fill of Ditch		LIA-C1	
263	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 263		
264	Fill	263	Fill of Ditch			
265	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 265		Ditch 7
266	Fill	265	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
267	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 267		
268	Fill	267	Fill of Ditch			
269	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 269		Structure 1
270	Fill	269	Fill of Posthole			
271	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 271		
272	Fill	271	Fill of Posthole			Structure 1
273	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 273		Structure 1
274	Fill	273	Fill of Posthole			
275	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 275		
276	Fill	275	Fill of Posthole			
277	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 277		Ditch 7
278	Fill	277	Fill of Ditch			
279	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 279		Ditch 4
280	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 280		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date	Set
281	Fill	280	Fill of Posthole			
282	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 282		
283	Fill	282	Fill of Posthole			
284	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 284		
285	Fill	284	Fill of Posthole			
286	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 286		
287	Fill	286	Fill of Posthole			
288	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 288		Structure 2
289	Fill	288	Fill of Posthole			
290	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 290		Structure 2
291	Fill	290	Fill of Posthole			
292	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 292		Structure 2
293	Fill	292	Fill of Posthole			
294	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 294		
295	Fill	294	Fill of Posthole			
296	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 296		Structure 2
297	Fill	296	Fill of Posthole			
298	Fill	279	Fill of Ditch			
299	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 299		
300	Fill	299	Fill of Ditch			
301	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 301		Ditch 4
302	Fill	301	Fill of Ditch			
303	Fill	301	Fill of Ditch			
304	Cut		Cut of Posthole	Posthole 304		
305	Fill	304	Fill of Posthole			
306	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 306		Pit Cluster 1
307	Fill	306	Fill of Pit		MC1-EC2	
308	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 308		Pit Cluster 1
309	Fill	308	Fill of Ditch			
310	Fill	279	Fill of Ditch			
311	Fill	312	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
312	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 312		Ditch 6
313	Fill	314	Fill of Ditch			
314	Cut		Cur of Gully	Gully 314		
315	Fill	318	Fill of Ditch			
316	Fill	318	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
317	Fill	318	Fill of Ditch		PRE	
318	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 318		Ditch 5
319	Fill	322	Fill of Ditch			
320	Fill	322	Fill of Ditch			
321	Fill	322	Fill of Ditch		MLC1	
322	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 322		Ditch 1
323	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 323		Pit Cluster 1
324	Fill	323	Fill of Pit		PRE	
325	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 325		Pit Cluster 1
326	Fill	325	Fill of Pit		IA-C1	
327	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 327		
328	Fill	327	Fill of Ditch		IA-C1	
329	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 329		Ditch 2
330	Fill	329	Fill of Ditch		MC1-EC2	
331	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 331		
332	Fill	331	Fill of Pit		MC1-EC2	
333	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 333		
334	Fill	333	Fill of Pit			
335	Cut		Cut of Ditch terminus	Ditch 335		Ditch 8
336	Fill	335	Fill of Ditch			
337	Cut		Cut of Ditch Terminus	Ditch 337		Ditch 4
338	Fill	337	Fill of Ditch Terminus			
339	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 339		Ditch 8
340	Fill	339	Fill of Ditch		MLBA	
341	Cut		Cut of Ditch Terminus	Ditch 341		Ditch 9
342	Fill	341	Fill of Ditch Terminus		MBA	

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date	Set
343	Cut		Cut of Pit	Pit 343		
344	Fill	343	Fill of Pit			
345	Cut		Cut of Ditch	Ditch 345		
346	Fill	345	Fill of Ditch		MLC1	

## APPENDIX B: POTTERY QUANTIFICATION TABLES

Table 4: Quantification of the Roman pottery assemblage

Period	Code*	Oxford Type Fabric	Description	Count	Weight (g)	EVEs
Late Iron Age/ Early Roman	FLT	E80	Flint-tempered fabric	2	5	
	FLFT		Fine flint-tempered fabric	16	131	0.10
	GR		Grog-tempered fabric	47	583	0.16
	GRF		Fine grog-tempered fabric	5	25	0.03
	GRQZ		Grog-and-quartz tempered fabric	64	1409	1.16
	GRSH		Grog-and-shell tempered fabric	2	17	
	LST		Limestone-tempered fabric	2	23	
	PEL		Fabric with clay pellet inclusions	1	10	
	QTT		Quartzite-tempered fabric	1	10	
	QZT		Quartz-tempered fabric	180	2684	1.38
	QZCT		Coarse quartz-tempered fabric	2	4	
	QZFT		Fine quartz-tempered fabric	35	107	0.03
	QZLS		Quartz-and-limestone tempered fabric	9	69	0.09
	SHT		Shell-tempered fabric	1	6	
SIL	Silty ware	1	48			
Roman	<b>BS</b>		Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	114	1016	0.78
	<b>DOR BB1</b>	B11	Dorset Black-burnished ware	1	4	
	GTGW	E80	Grog-tempered greyware	7	69	
	GWF	R30	Greyware (fine)	18	139	0.20
	GWM	R20	Greyware (medium)	49	580	0.40
	GWOR		Greyware (orange core)	8	28	0.03
	<b>LEZ SA2</b>	S30	Central Gaulish samian	3	56	0.05
	OXF FO	O11	Oxford fine oxidised fabric	3	38	0.18
	OXF GW		Oxford reduced fabric	1	8	0.05
	<b>OXF WH</b>	M22	Oxford whiteware	18	347	0.21
	OXIF	O10	Fine oxidised fabric	2	34	
	QZR		Quartz-tempered fabric	17	30	
	QZFR		Fine quartz-tempered fabric	3	66	0.30
	<b>SAV GT</b>	E81	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	1	50	
	WHF	W30	Whiteware (fine)	5	34	0.10
	<b>Total</b>				<b>697</b>	<b>8447</b>

\* codes in bold correlate with the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection types (Tomber and Dore 1998)

**APPENDIX C: LITHICS TABLE**

**Table 5: Breakdown of the lithics assemblage**

	<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Excavation</b>
Burnt unworked	15	70
<b>Primary technology</b>		
Blade	1	3
Chip	1	1
Core		2
Flake	5	13
<b>Secondary technology</b>		
Scraper (end)	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>89</b>

**APPENDIX D: PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND CHARCOAL**

**Table 6: Plant macrofossil identifications**

<b>Evaluation (Eval)/Excavation (Exc)</b>				Eval	Eval	Exc	Exc	Exc	Exc	Exc	Exc
<b>Context number</b>				1107	1125	105	180	154	154	182	311
<b>Feature number</b>				1106	1106	104	179	153	153	181	312
<b>Feature Label</b>							Pit cluster 1			Ditch 2	Ditch 6
<b>Sample number (SS)</b>				1	2	1	3	2	4	5	6
<b>Flot volume (ml)</b>				16	0.5	4	4	1	4	1	1
<b>Sample volume processed (l)</b>				8	1	17	19	17	37	15	15
<b>Soil remaining (l)</b>				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Period</b>				2	2	4	4	5	5	5	5
<b>Plant macrofossil preservation</b>				N/A	Good	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	N/A	N/A
<b>Habitat Code</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Common Name</b>								
HSW	Adoxaceae	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L.	Elder					1			
HSW	Betulaceae	<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Hazelnut shells				1				
D/P	Fabaceae	<i>Medicago</i> L./ <i>Trifolium</i> L.	Medicks/Clovers				1				
D/A/P		<i>Vicia</i> L./ <i>Lathyrus</i> L.	Vetches/Peas				3				
P/D	Poaceae	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> (L) P. Beauv. ex J. & C. Presl	False Oat-grass		1						
A/D		<i>Bromus</i> L.	Bromes			2	3				
E		<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	Barley grain			2	1				
E		<i>Triticum</i>	Wheat grain				1				
E		<i>Triticum spelta</i>	Spelt wheat glume base			2	3				
E		<i>Triticum dicoccum</i> / <i>Triticum spelta</i>	Emmer/spelt wheat grain			1					
E		Poaceae	Indeterminate cereal grain (whole)			2	1	1			
E		Poaceae	Indeterminate cereal grain (fragment)			3	14		1		
<b>Total</b>				0	0	12	28	2	1	0	0

**Table 7: Charcoal identifications**

<b>Area</b>	Eval	Eval	Exc	Exc	Exc	Exc	Exc	Exc
-------------	------	------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----



<b>Context number</b>	1107	1125	105	180	154	154	182	311
<b>Feature number</b>	1106	1106	104	179	153	153	181	312
<b>Feature Label</b>				Pit cluster 1			Ditch 2	Ditch 6
<b>Sample number (SS)</b>	1	2	1	3	2	4	5	6
<b>Flot volume (ml)</b>	16	0.5	4	4	1	4	1	1
<b>Sample volume processed (l)</b>	8	1	17	19	17	37	15	15
<b>Soil remaining (l)</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Period</b>	2	2	4	4	5	5	5	5
<b>Charcoal quantity &gt;2mm</b>	+++	+	+	+++	0	+	+++	+
<b>Charcoal preservation</b>	Good	Good	Poor	Moderate	N/A	Poor	Moderate	Poor
<b>Family</b>	<b>Species</b>		<b>Common Name</b>					
Betulaceae	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.) Gaertn./ <i>Corylus avellana</i> L.		Alder/Hazel					
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.		Sessile Oak/ Pedunculate Oak					
Rosaceae	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq./ <i>Sorbus</i> L./ <i>Malus sylvestris</i> (L.) Mill.		Hawthorn/Rowans/ Crab apple					
	<i>Prunus</i> L.		Cherries					
			Indeterminate					
<b>Total</b>								
	10	3	3	10	0	0	7	1

Key

+ = 1-4 items; ++ = 5-20 items; +++ = 21-49 items; ++++ = 50-99 items; +++++ = 100-500 items; ++++++ = >500 items

HSW = hedgerow/scrub/woodland species; A = arable weeds; D = opportunistic species; P = grassland/pasture species; E = economic species

**APPENDIX E: ANIMAL BONE**

**Table 8: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.**

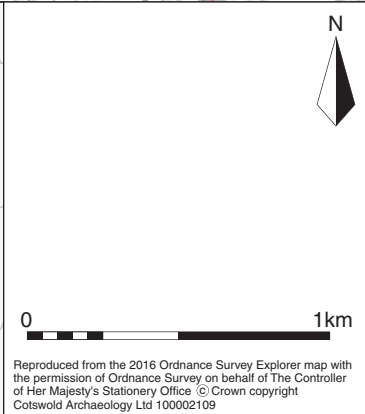
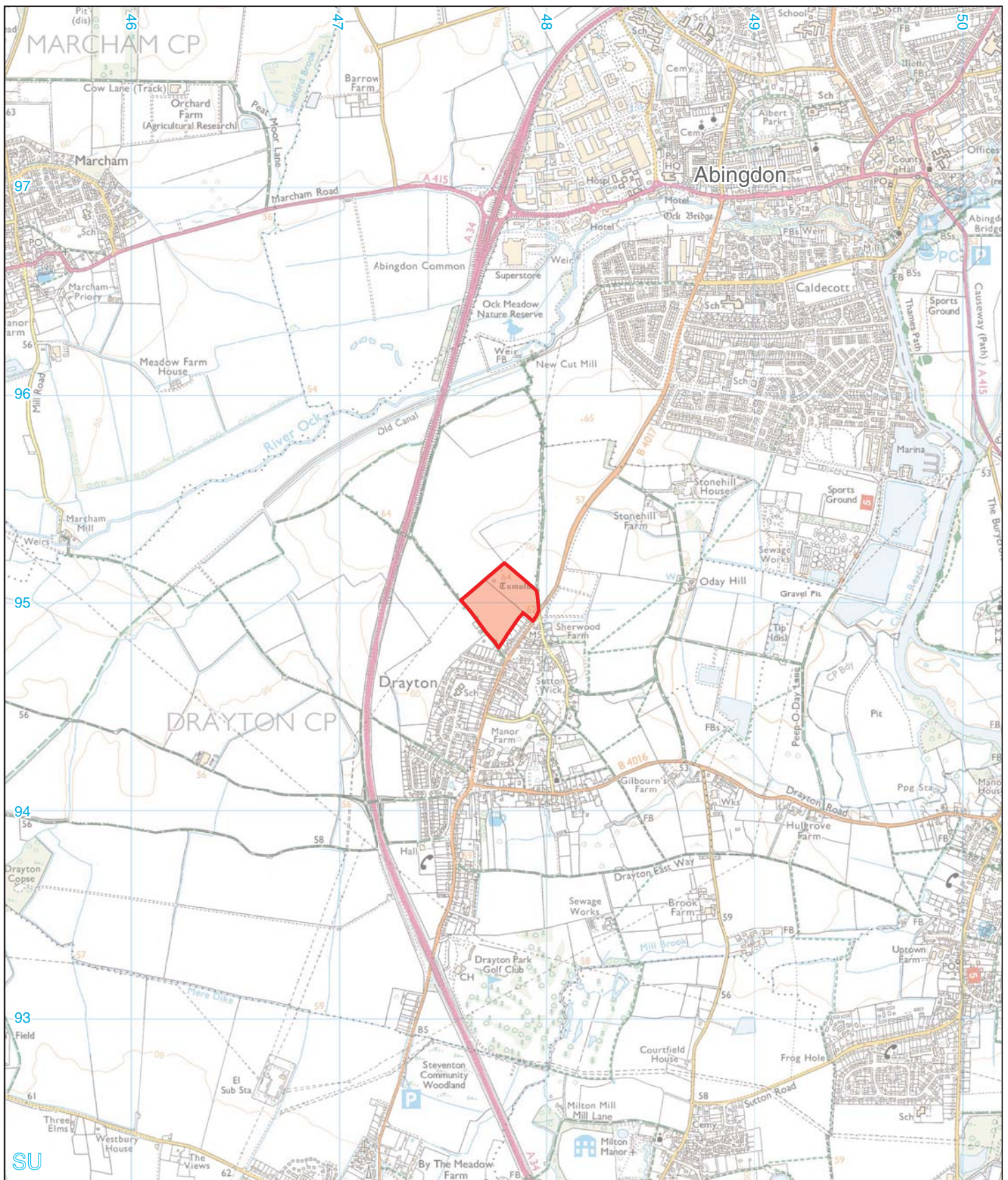
Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	EQ	LM	MM	Ind	Un-id SS	Total	Weight (g)
<b>Phase 3</b>											
196	197							2		2	10
204	206	1	1		1	3		8		14	64
232	231		1				2			3	27
258	257	1	1							2	58
299	300							3		3	1
318	316	1						2		3	158
318	317				1	3				4	360
335	336					3		3		6	25
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>37</b>	<b>703</b>
<b>Phase 4</b>											
104	105		2			1			23	26	76
118	119							2		2	1
179	180		3					5	63	71	41
194	195		1		1			4		6	84
198	199		1					1		2	29
200	201		1							1	11
249	250	1						2		3	85
325	326						3			3	12

<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>339</b>
	<b>Phase 4/5</b>										
108	109		1			1				2	17
211	212		1				3			4	15
345	346	1	3	1			1			6	53
<b>subtotal</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>12</b>	<b>85</b>
	<b>Phase 5</b>										
110	111						2			2	6
131	132				1					1	14
133	134		1		1			1		3	245
138	139		2		1			12		15	157
140	141	1				1				2	31
147	148							3		3	7
149	150		1							1	14
151	152		4					7		11	31
153	154	1	4						28	33	108
155	156	1								1	60
181	182							1	25	26	10
192	193	3	2					8		13	276
207	208	1	2				15			18	107
213	214								1	1	1
227	224	1	2			1	1	6		11	88
239	240		1					1		2	8
241	242		1			8				9	63
253	252							3		3	8
255	254	2				1				3	156
260	259	3	1			1				5	133
312	311	1	2				1		28	32	83
329	330		1			3				4	43
	251	1						4		5	54
<b>subtotal</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>24</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>1703</b>
	<b>Undated</b>										
327	328		1							1	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>368</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>917</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2833</b>	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat, SUS = pig; EQ = horse; LM= large sized mammal; MM = medium sized mammal; Ind = indeterminate; un-id SS = unidentifiable fragments from bulk soil samples

**APPENDIX F: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Land at Abingdon Rd, Drayton, Oxfordshire	
Short description	<p>Excavation within the north-east of the proposed development area was targeted on features identified in a previous evaluation. An enclosing curvilinear ditch of middle Bronze Age date, but re-cut in the later Iron Age and Roman periods, delineated the gravel island within the northern part of the site, and may have facilitated drainage on the site. A small collared urn vessel, associated with a pit containing burnt bone, comprises the only other significant evidence of Bronze Age activity on the site.</p> <p>A small late Iron Age / early Roman farmstead was associated with this ditch, and comprised part of a wider scheme of enclosure. This settlement had a limited chronology, extending, at latest, to the mid second century AD. The pottery assemblage included domestic coarse and fine-wares and imported wares. Two four-post structures were recorded within the Late Iron Age/Roman enclosure, with a penannular gully of 15m diameter within the north-east corner of the site representing a roundhouse of probable Late Iron Age date. A smaller, ill-defined structure, of possible Iron Age date, may represent a livestock pen. An array of north-west/south-east aligned medieval furrows was recorded across the site.</p>	
Project dates	28 September to 23 October 2015	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2014) Desk Based Assessment (WYG 2015), Written Statement of Investigation (CA 2015), Archaeological Evaluation (CA 2015)	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Land at Abingdon Rd, Drayton, Oxfordshire	
Study area	Site: 8ha, Excavation area: 0.6ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 447790 195000	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Oxford County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Damian De Rosa	
Project Supervisor	Ray Kennedy	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>		
Linear Ditch and Ditched Enclosed Settlement		
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>		
Middle Bronze Age Collared Urn		
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Oxfordshire Museums Service	Content
Physical		Ceramics, lithics, animal bone etc
Paper		Context sheets, matrices etc
Digital		Database, digital photos etc
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 <i>Land at Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Excavation</i> . CA typescript report <b>16072</b>		





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---

**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire

---

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

---

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	779009	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	04/04/16	
APPROVED BY	RWM	SCALE	@A4 1:25,000	<b>1</b>

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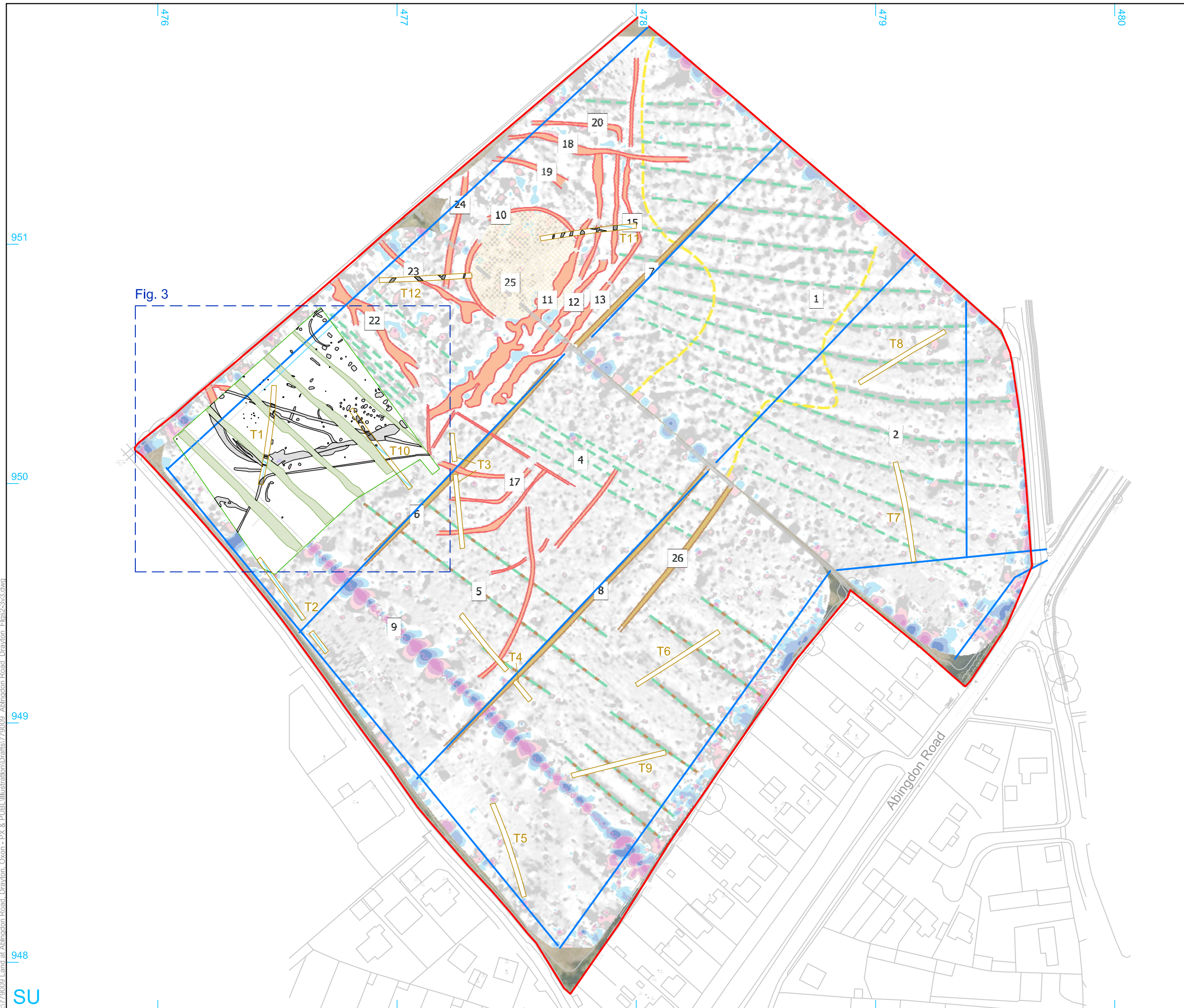


Fig. 3

- site boundary
- drainage
- evaluation trench (CA 2015)
- - - limit of excavation
- archaeological feature
- layer/deposit
- furrow
- field drain

Geophysical Survey Results  
(ArchaeoPhysica Ltd 2014)

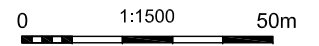
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high passed 5s/nT

	0.5
	0
	-0.5

> 50 nT  
 > 10nT  
 > 3nT  
 < -3nT  
 < -10nT  
 < -50nT

**Catalogue**

- Labels
- Archaeology
- Fills
- Zones
- Agricultural
- Boundaries
- Cultivation Furrows
- Cultivation or Boundaries(?)
- Soils/Geology
- Textural change
- Modern
- Services (UGC/UGP)



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PROJECT TITLE  
Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE  
**The site showing excavation area and evaluation trenches**

SU  
L:\2017\79009\Lead at Abingdon Road\_Drayton\_Oxon - PX & PUB\Illustration\Drawings\779009\_Abingdon Road\_Drayton\_Figs2-3v3.dwg





- site boundary
- excavation area
- previous evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- archaeological intervention
- layer/deposit
- furrow
- field drain
- ⓑ section location



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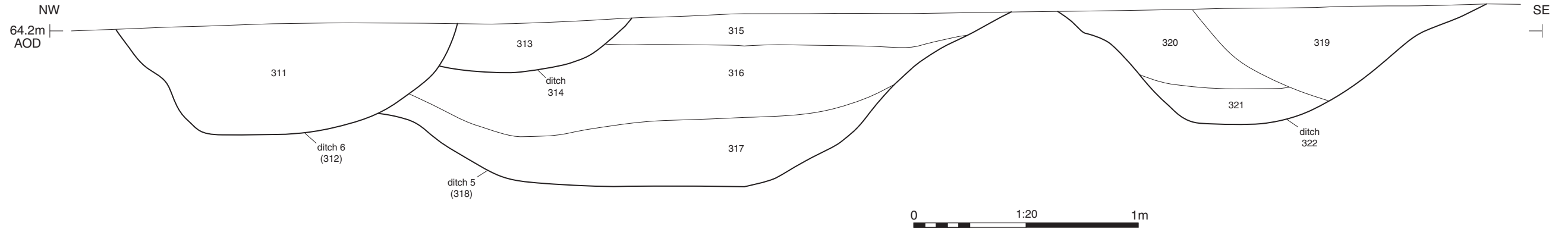
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 The site excavation area

DRAWN BY	LJHRH	PROJECT NO.	779009	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	16-03-2016	<b>3</b>
APPROVED BY	RWM	SCALE@A3	1:400	

P:\779009 Land at Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxon - PX & PUBL Illustration\Drawings\779009\_Abingdon Road, Drayton, Figs2-3v4.dwg

Section AA



Ditches 5 & 6, looking south-east (2m scale)

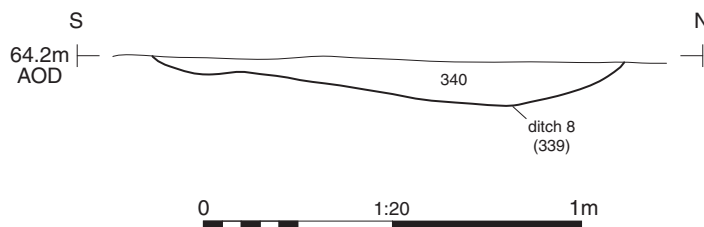

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PROJECT TITLE  
 Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE  
**Ditches 5 6: section and photograph**

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	19/02/16	<b>4</b>
APPROVED BY	RWM	SCALE@A3	1:20	

Section BB



Ditch 8 looking west (0.5m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 8: section and photograph

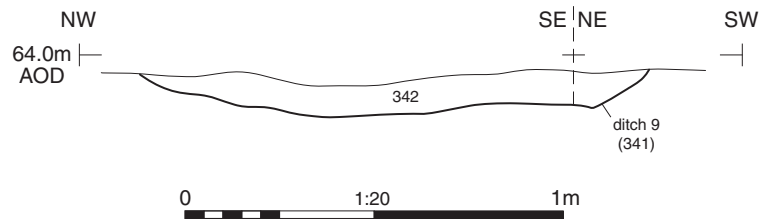
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CHECKED BY D J B DATE 08/02/16  
APPROVED BY R W M SCALE@A4 1:20

FIGURE NO.

5



Section CC



Ditch 9 looking north-west (0.4m & 0.5m scales)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

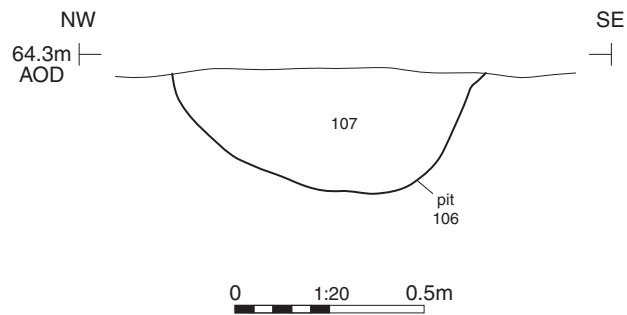
Ditch 9: section and photograph

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FIGURE NO.

6

Section DD



Pit 106, looking north-east (0.5m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

**Pit 106: section and photograph**

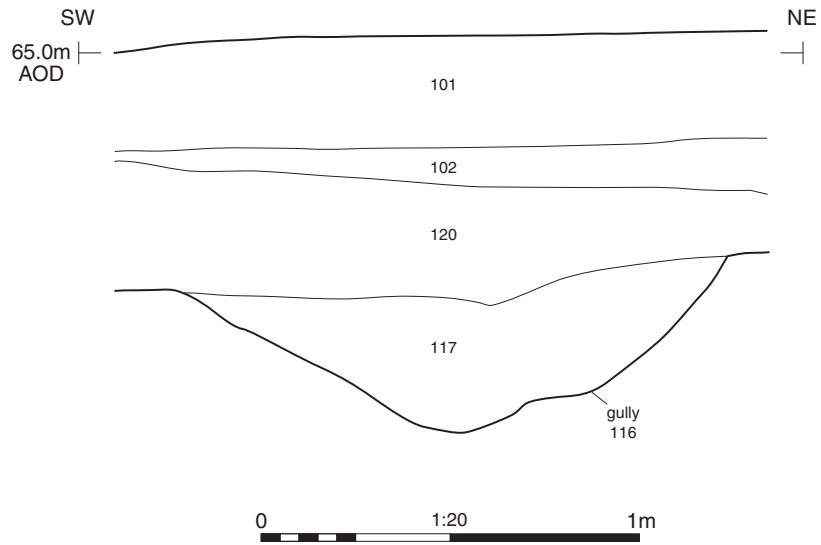
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FIGURE NO.

**7**



Section EE



Gully 116, looking north-west (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

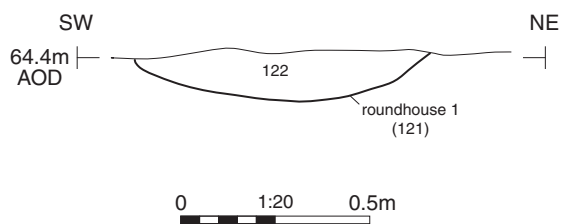
**Gully 116: section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**8**

Section FF



Roundhouse 1, looking north-east (0.5m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

**Roundhouse 1: section and photograph**

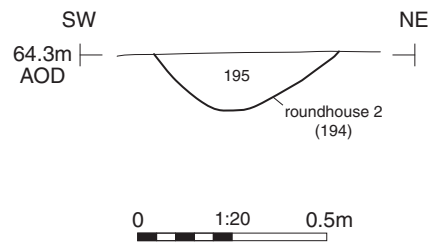
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FIGURE NO.

9



Section GG



Roundhouse 2, looking north-west (0.3m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

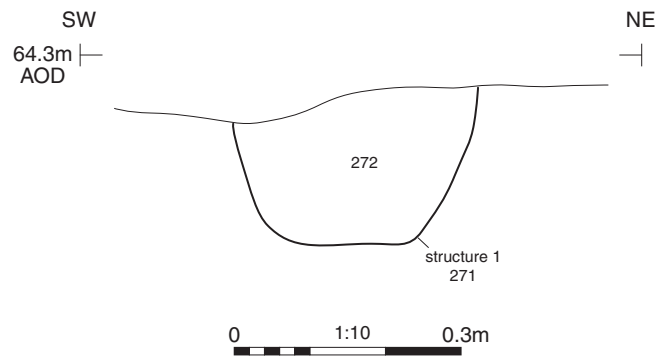
**Roundhouse 2: section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**10**

Section HH



Structure 1, looking north-west (0.2m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

**Post Pit 272 of Structure 1: section and photograph**

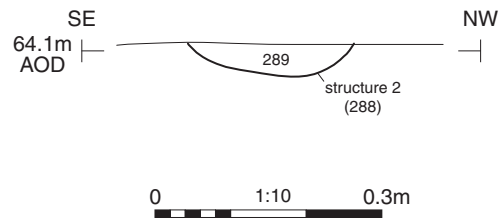
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FIGURE NO.

**11**



Section II



Structure 2, looking south-west (0.2m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

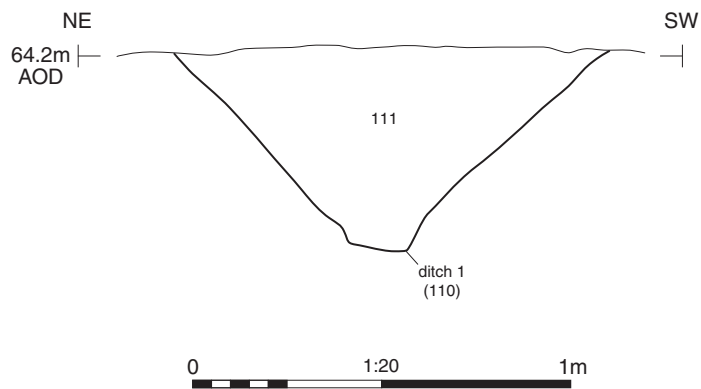
**Post Pit 288 of Structure 2: section and photograph**

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FIGURE NO.

**12**

Section JJ



Ditch 1, looking south-east (0.5m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 1: section and photograph

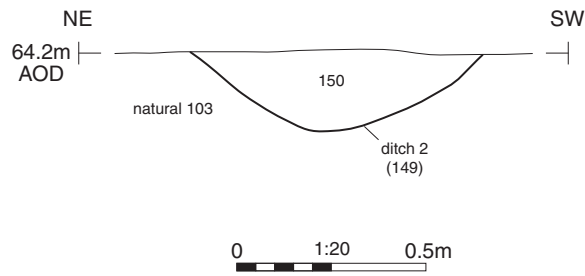
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FIGURE NO.

13



Section KK



Ditch 2, looking south-east (0.5m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE

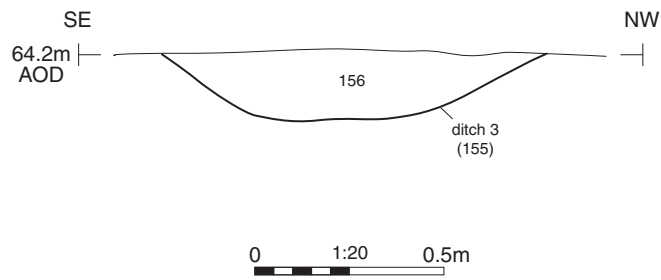
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FIGURE NO.

14

Section LL



Ditch 3, looking south-west (0.5m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 3: section and photograph

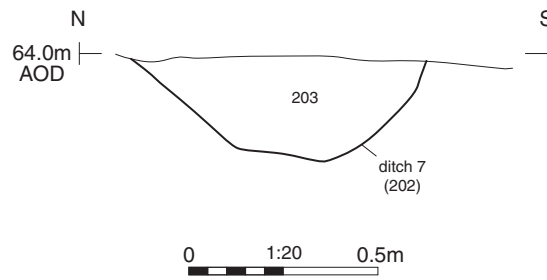
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FIGURE NO.

15



Section MM



Ditch 7, looking east (0.5m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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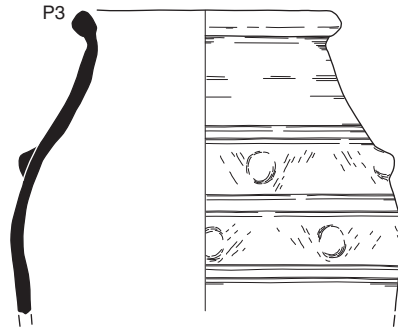
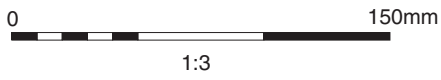
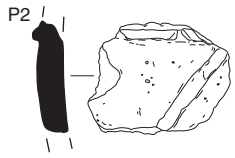
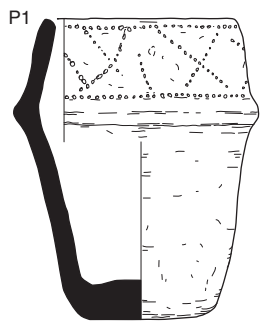
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Ditch 7: section and photograph

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FIGURE NO.

16



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PROJECT TITLE

Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire

FIGURE TITLE

**Selected pottery finds**

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 APPROVED BY RWM SCALE@A4 1:3 1:4

FIGURE NO.

**17**



**18 Plot of 2016 Magnetometer Survey of the extended site at Abingdon Road, Drayton, superimposed on Google Earth image. (with kind permission of Mr Roger Ainslie and Abingdon Archaeological Geophysics)**



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*PROJECT TITLE*

Abingdon Road, Drayton, Oxfordshire

*FIGURE TITLE*

**Geophysical survey results  
 superimposed on satellite image**

DRAWN BY LJB PROJECT NO. 779009  
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 25/02/16  
 APPROVED BY RWM SCALE@A4 not to scale

*FIGURE NO.*

**18**

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